FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Near East & South Asia

Vol V No 117 *18 June 1987*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 June Middle East and South Asia Review ..... AA 1

PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS

PLO Executive Committee Resumes Baghdad Meetings *[Sanaa VOP]* ..... DD 1

S. ASIAN REGIONAL AFFAIRS

SAARC Delegates Hold 2-Day Meeting in New Delhi ..... FF 1
Indian Foreign Secretary's Speech *[Delhi]* ..... FF 1
Terrorism, Drug Trafficking Reports *[Delhi]* ..... FF 1
Cooperation, Progress Assessed *[Delhi]* ..... FF 1
Foreign Ministers Arrive *[Delhi]* ..... FF 2
Abdus Sattar on Better Relations *[Karachi]* ..... FF 2
Gandhi Addresses Inaugural Session *[Delhi]* ..... FF 2

ALGERIA

Official Talks With Libyan Ministers Continue ..... A 1
Further on Information Accord *[JANA]* ..... A 1
Talks Conclude 17 Jun ..... A 1

EGYPT

Mubarak Comments on Recent 'Violence,' Economy ..... C 1
London Paper's Report on Mubarak Remarks Denied *[AL-AHRAM 16 Jun]* ..... C 1
Reconciliation Efforts With Libya, Syria Reported *[AL-WAFD 15 Jun]* ..... C 1
Security Arrests Suspects in Abu Basha Shooting ..... C 2
Security Chief Comments on Number of Detainees ..... C 2
'Crisis' With Israel Over Compensation Claims ..... C 2
Abu Ghazalah Pays Official Visit to Romania *[cross-reference]* ..... C 3
Planning Minister Discusses New 5-Year Plan *[AL-AHRAM 9 Jun]* ..... C 3
Ministers Discuss Budget, Military Expenditure *[AL-AKHBAR 15 Jun]* ..... C 6

LIBYA

Delegation Discusses French Hostages, Chad *[KUNA]* ..... D 1
'Text' of 17 Jun Unity Communique With Algeria ..... D 1
Jallud Receives GUNT Leader Goukouni in Algiers ..... D 2
Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Chadian Rebel Officials ..... D 2
Receives Islamic Call Members ..... D 2
Meets Sudanese in Banghazi ..... D 2
PLF Official Aziz Arrives in Tripoli 17 Jun ..... D 2

MOROCCO

Spokesman Denies Intention To Meet Algerians ..... F 1
Talks With Bulgarian Deputy Chairman Open 17 Jun ..... F 1
Japanese Foreign Minister Begins Official Talks ..... F 1
Kuranari Arrives 11 Jun ..... F 1
Meets King Hassan, Minister ..... F 1
King, Kuranari View Gulf War *[KYODO]* ..... F 1

Prime Minister Returns from Paris Talks ..... F 2

SUDAN

Committees Drafting Alternative to Islamic Laws ..... G 1
Finance Minister Views Italian Aid, IMF Talks ..... G 1
Government's Struggle With Armed Forces Noted *[Radio SPLA]* ..... G 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

Security Forces Raid Al-Ahsa Sect's Mosque *[IRNA]* ..... J 1
Papers Comment on Latest Gulf Developments ..... J 1

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Abdication of Sharjah Ruler Prompts Crisis ..... J 1
Names Brother as Successor *[WAKH]* ..... J 1
Supreme Council Meets ..... J 2
Sharjah Ruler Returns From UK ..... J 2
'Crisis' Committee Formed ..... J 2
King Fahd Cables Shaykh Zayid *[Riyadh]* ..... J 2
Bahraini Amir Phones Zayid *[WAKH]* ..... J 2
Kuwaiti Amir Contacts Zayid *[Kuwait]* ..... J 2

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

President Salih Receives Sudan's Hasan al-Turabi ..... J 3

IRAQ

USSR Minister Vorontsov Continues Official Talks ..... K 1
Received by Saddam Husayn ..... K 1
Meets With Ramadan ..... K 1
'Intensive' USSR Mediation To End Gulf War Noted *[Monte Carlo]* ..... K 1
Communique No 2,711 Details Combat 16-17 Jun ..... K 1
Enemy 'Wiped Out' in North ..... K 2
Iranian Claims Denied ..... K 2
Communique No 2,712 Issued ..... K 2
United Nations Told of New Iranian Shelling ..... K 3

ISRAEL

Government Issues Entry Visas for USSR Delegation ..... L 1
Womens' Delegation Departs For Soviet Union ..... L 1
Labor Party Secretary Comments ..... L 1
Future Delegation to USSR Named ..... L 1
Prime Minister Shamir Pays Visit to Togo *[cross-reference]* ..... L 1
Foreign Ministry Condemns Waldheim Vatican Visit ..... L 1
Government Reportedly Approved Meeting With PLO ..... L 1
AL-FAJR Urges More Meetings *[13 Jun]* ..... L 2
Commentery on PLO Contacts *[HA'ARETZ 16 Jun]* ..... L 2
AL-QUDS Calls for Mending Egypt-PLO Rift *[14 Jun]* ..... L 3
Rabin Returns From France, Notes Improving Ties ..... L 4
French Stance on Conference ..... L 4
Netherlands Foreign Minister Meets Palestinians ..... L 4
Navy Commander Discusses Regional Developments ..... L 5
IDF Spokesman Reports on Intelligence Process *['AL HAMISHMAR 17 Jun]* ..... L 7
Sharon Criticizes Government 'Alliance' With USSR *['AL HAMISHMAR 17 Jun]* ..... L 7
Comments on Security Policy *[THE JERUSALEM POST 17 Jun]* ..... L 7

Absorption Minister Discusses Immigration ..... L 8
Notes Status of Ethiopian Jews ..... L 8
3 'Terrorists' Killed in Lebanon; Rabin Comments ..... L 8
SLA Commander Comments on Hizballah Objectives ..... L 9
Palestinians Accuse Army of Blocking Unions *[THE JERUSALEM POST 17 Jun]* ..... L 9
Nisim on Government Spending in Territories *[THE JERUSALEM POST 16 Jun]* ..... L 9
$600 Million Figure Quoted *[HA'ARETZ 17 Jun]* ..... L 9
Jordan To Ban Citrus Fruit Imports From Gaza *[DAVAR 17 Jun]* ..... L 10
May Consumer Price Index Rises By 0.6 Percent ..... L 10
Organized Tours to USSR Booked for 'Next Few Weeks' *[DAVAR 15 Jun]* ..... L 10
Corrections to Report on Peres-Husayn Agreement ..... L 10

JORDAN

King Husayn To Visit U.S., USSR 'This Summer' *[Kuwait AL-QABAS 16 Jun]* ..... M 1
King Husayn Promotes Army Chief to Field Marshal ..... M 1
AL-DUSTUR: Sinyurah Election Bid 'Unacceptable' *[10 Jun]* ..... M 1
PLO Pursuing 'Illusion' With Israeli Leftists *[AL-RA'Y 15 Jun]* ..... M 3
Transport Company Minutes Signed With Iraq ..... M 3

LEBANON

Beirut Gunmen Kidnap U.S. Journalist Glass *[VOL]* ..... N 1
Defense Minister Contacts Khaddam *[AFP]* ..... N 1
VOL Reveals Group, Location *[VOL]* ..... N 1
Shi'ite Council Denounces Act ..... N 1
FRG Embassy Calls on Germans to Leave Muslim Area *[Hamburg DPA]* ..... N 1
Paper Notes 'Secret' Al-Jumayyil Visit to Algeria *[RFL]* ..... N 2
Chamber of Deputies Speaker Resumes Activities ..... N 2
Junblatt, Birri Reportedly Reconcile in Syria *[Monte Carlo]* ..... N 2
Junblatt Reportedly Escapes Assassination 13 Jun *[VOL]* ..... N 2
Report Says Bomb Detonated By 'Remote Control' *[AFP]* ..... N 3
Ja'ja' Urges Expulsion of Syrian, Foreign Armies *[RFL]* ..... N 3
Growing Ties Between Fatah, Fundamentalists Noted *[RFL]* ..... N 3
Madrid Paper Interviews SLA's Antoine Lahd *[DIARIO 16 1 Jun]* ..... N 4
Gen Lahd Addresses SLA Training School Graduates *[Voice of Hope]* ..... N 4

SYRIA

Iranian Ministers Continue Meetings in Damascus ..... O 1
Visit Al-Kasm in Hospital ..... O 1
Discuss Trade, Commerce *[Tehran]* ..... O 1
Further on Visit by Supreme Soviet Delegation ..... O 1
Received by Minister al-Shar' ..... O 1
Talks Held With Assembly Speaker ..... O 1
Soviets Attend Assembly Session ..... O 2
Katushev Delegation Views Phosphate Accord ..... O 2
Khaddam Receives GDR Deputy Foreign Minister ..... O 2
Voice of Iraq Decries Saddam Husayn's 'Threats' ..... O 3

AFGHANISTAN

Nur Ahmad Nur Discusses Coalition Government ..... P 1
Former King States Position on Cooperation *[ANSA]* ..... P 4

INDIA

Lok Dal Candidates Take Lead in Haryana Polls ..... R 1
Gandhi Rejects Opposition Idea on Bofors Issue ..... R 1
Gandhi Meets With Ousted Fijian Justice Minister ..... R 1
Defense Minister Views Growth in Shipyards ..... R 1

IRAN

Foreign Ministry Recalls Diplomats From UK ..... S 1
Foreign Minister Issues Statement on UAE ..... S 1
'Fath-6' Operation Launched in Iraq's Kurdistan ..... S 1
Iraqi Battalions Destroyed ..... S 2
Strategic Heights Captured ..... S 2
Mirgah Sur Surrounded ..... S 2
Town Offices Destroyed ..... S 2
Events Marking Construction Jihad Anniversary ..... S 2
Khomeyni Receives Delegation ..... S 2
Khamene'i Attends Meeting ..... S 2
President on Role in Agriculture ..... S 3
Khamene'i Welcomes Coalition of Afghan Rebels ..... S 3
Khomeyni Appoints 2 to Islamic Courts ..... S 4
Commentary Views Iraqi Policy on Gulf Attacks ..... S 4
Musavi, Delegation Return From Visit to Turkey ..... S 5
Velayati Reports to Cabinet on PRC, DPRK Talks ..... S 5
Commerce Minister Departs for Meeting in Syria ..... S 5
Delegation Visits Ailing Syrian Prime Minister ..... S 6
Argentine Trade Official Meets With Larijani ..... S 6
Iraqis Mount Search for Missing Top Official ..... S 6
Guards Corps Units To Hold Maneuvers 19 Jun ..... S 6
Reportage on Combat Operations Against Iraq ..... S 6
Communique No 2,869 ..... S 6
Iraqis Bomb Kurdistan Village ..... S 7
Communique No 2,870 ..... S 7
150 Iraqi Casualties Inflicted ..... S 7
Communique No 2,871 ..... S 7

PAKISTAN

15 Injured, 50 Arrested in Latest Karachi Riots *[Delhi]* ..... V 1
'Strong' Bomb Blast Reported in Peshawar 16 Jun ..... V 1
'Profiteers' Arrested Following Budget Proposals *[AFP]* ..... V 1
Foreign Minister Leaves for SAARC Meeting ..... V 1

SRI LANKA

1,000 Terrorist Suspects Released From Boosa Camp ..... W 1
Foreign Policy Review Urged After Jaffna Airdrop *[SUN 10 Jun]* ..... W 1

18 June Middle East and South Asia Review

LD181323 [Editorial Report]

Leadership Crisis in Al-Shariqah

The UAE Supreme Council announced 18 June that statements issued the previous day are considered "null and void." The announcement was made by UAE Minister of State Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Hamid al-Qasimi at the end of a Supreme Council session chaired by the UAE president, Abu Dhabi radio reported. The Council ruling followed a 17 June statement in Al-Shariqah announcing the abdication of local ruler Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi in favor of his brother, Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi. The abdication statement, carried by WAKH, was issued in Shaykh Sultan's name and expressed his desire to resign in light of his inability to solve Al-Shariqah's financial crisis and of his pursuit of higher education, which does not leave him enough time to follow up "urgent daily responsibilities." The statement also acknowledged that "mistakes" in financial policy have caused a growing debt in Al-Shariqah's budget, referred to lack of honesty and awareness among the leadership, and claimed that public companies have been allowed to exploit financial problems to their own advantage.

However, Shaykh Sultan was not in the UAE at the time of his announced "abdication." Dubayy radio noted that he subsequently returned to the UAE from London. The radio also cited a local press report that three UAE shaykhs have formed a committee to negotiate with Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad to end the crisis. In a related development, the UAE president received a message from Saudi King Fahd, who expressed Saudi Arabia's "full confidence" that the UAE leaders will be able to resolve the problem in Al-Shariqah, the radio disclosed.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Fighting in Iraq — Iranian soldiers and Iraqi Kurds launched operations inside northern Iraq the night of 17 June, IRNA reported. Two strategic heights in the area of Irbil were captured, and an attack on the city of Mirgah Sur spread into the "central streets." More than 200 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and 102 captured as the Iraqi forces launched two "futile" counterattacks.

However, an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA described the Iranian claims as "absolute lies," adding that Iraqi forces annihilated a large part of an Iranian force that tried to attack a border height in the Mirgah Sur region. An earlier statement carried by Voice of the Masses radio noted that the Iranians were assisted by "treasonous guides" in their attack in the northern sector, but stressed that they were expelled and "extremely humiliated."

Soviet Peace Plan — During talks with first deputy prime minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, the Soviet Union's Yuliy Vorontsov expressed appreciation for Iraq's peaceful efforts to end the Gulf war and establish peace and stability in the region, INA reported. The Soviet official also met with President Saddam Husayn to discuss the two countries' close bilateral relations and regional and international efforts to end the war, according to Voice of the Masses. Meanwhile, Soviet diplomats who are members of the Vorontsov delegation which previously visited Iran said Iran's reaction to a Soviet peace plan "encouraged" Moscow to send Vorontsov to Baghdad, according to an article in Kuwait's *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* cited by Radio Monte Carlo. The Soviet plan calls for negotiations between Iran and Iraq in Moscow, followed by a request for financial assistance from the UN for the two countries to build their economies. According to the Soviet diplomats, Iran objected to "certain points" in the plan, but Vorontsov found the visit to Tehran "positive."

Iran

The Foreign Ministry recalled all members of the embassy in London except one, Tehran radio announced 18 June, noting the "assault" on an Iranian official in Manchester and the UK's repeated violation of the Vienna Convention in its dealings with Iran. The official recall was issued 2 days ago, and the diplomats will return to Tehran within 2 weeks. Four more British diplomats were returning to London, leaving only two in Tehran, *Press Association* reported earlier. A Foreign Office spokesman said the mission was being reduced to minimum size as a "precautionary measure."

DRA

The leaders of eight Afghan groups in Iran announced their formation of a coalition to pursue their struggle to set up an Islamic system in Afghanistan, Tehran radio disclosed.

Lebanon

Amal-PSP Agreement — PSP leader Walid Junblatt and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri have agreed on an "action program" to deal with the current Lebanese situation and to confront "the partitionists collaborating with Israel," Damascus radio reported. Other leading PSP and Amal officials attended the meeting, which was held in Damascus under the auspices of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. A PSP-Amal joint statement broadcast by Radio Monte Carlo spoke of agreement on the need to strengthen the "national factor" and to form a "Lebanese Unification and Liberation Front." The two sides viewed "the toppling of the sectarian regime as the only framework to achieve salvation" and stressed the need to escalate resistance in the south. As for the Palestinian presence, Amal and the PSP said they "reject attempts to adhere to the Cairo Agreement" and called on the Palestinians to withdraw from positions east of Sidon.

Karami, Husayni — According to an *Al-Safir* report cited by AFP, the military inquiry into Rashid Karami's assassination has concluded that the prime minister was killed by a bomb that was on board the helicopter when it took off from Adma air base and was detonated by remote control. In another development, Beirut radio noted that Husayn al-Husayni resumed his activities as speaker of the Chamber of Deputies 18 June.

Clash in South — Three "terrorists" were killed in a 17 June

clash with IDF soldiers near Al-Qantarah, the IDF spokesman announced in a statement reported by Jerusalem radio. The Islamic Resistance acknowledged that one of its units was ambushed by an IDF force in the area, but claimed that six Israelis were killed or wounded in the engagement, Beirut radio noted.

Syria

Damascus radio confirmed Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm's illness, noting that the Iranian Revolution Guards minister and his colleagues visited Al-Kasm in the hospital to inquire about his health.

The Soviet parliamentary delegation visiting Damascus attended a People's Assembly session chaired by Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi, Damascus television reported. Al-Zu'bi told the Soviet group that Syria attaches great importance to the visit in light of the results of President Hafiz al-Asad's recent talks in Moscow, TASS disclosed. He also expressed Syrian approval for the current restructuring process in the USSR.

In a separate development, SANA reported that a Soviet scientific ship has found mounds and rifts on the seabed off the Syrian coast, indicating possible oil and gas deposits.

Israel

USSR Visit — In an interview with Jerusalem radio, Labor Party Secretary MK 'Uzi Bar'am confirmed that he has been invited to head the Israeli party delegation to Moscow, expressing the view that the invitation points to the importance the Soviets attach to the visit. The radio noted that the delegation will also include two other Labor MK's, the secretaries of Mapam, Hadash, and the Citizens Rights Movement, and several academics.

PLO Contacts — A Shin Bet agent asserted that Uri Avneri and Arye Eli'av had government approval for their secret meetings with PLO officials in recent years, Jerusalem radio reported. The agent was testifying at the trial of four leftists who met with PLO officials in Romania last year.

Egypt

Security authorities are interrogating three people identified by eyewitnesses as having collaborated in an attempt to assassinate former Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha, according to an *Al-Jumhuriyah* report cited by MENA. The three have admitted to committing the crime, but the investigation is continuing, the paper said. In a news conference reported by MENA, the public security director said that 746 people are currently being detained in the country. Of these, 253 are being held in connection with criminal offenses following the recent spate of assassination attempts. Charges against the remainder relate to misappropriation of funds and narcotics trafficking.

PLO Executive Committee Resumes Baghdad Meetings

JN171835 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee resumed its meetings under the chairmanship of brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] in Baghdad this morning.

During its lengthy meeting last night, the Committee discussed issues related to the volatile situation in the occupied territories. This topic was reviewed in light of the iron-fist policy carried out by the Zionist occupation forces. Ways to support and enhance Palestinian steadfastness, and the dangers posed to Palestinian people in the camps in Lebanon due to the continuing siege imposed on these camps were discussed. The abrogation of the Cairo agreement signed by the PLO and the Lebanese Government was also reviewed.

The Committee also discussed the ideas proposed about an international peace conference on the Middle East by various parties. They talked about the need to have the Palestinian people participate in this conference through the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, to help realize the Palestinian people's rights.

During its meeting today, the PLO Executive Committee will discuss Palestinian-Arab relations, foremost of which concerns PLO-Syrian relations, PLO-Jordanian relations, and PLO-Egyptian relations. The Committee will also review contacts it held with Arab states following the conclusion of the PNC meetings in Algiers in April. The Committee will discuss relations with friendly states headed by the Soviet Union and the mission of the delegation to be headed by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, which will begin a visit to Moscow on 20 June.

SAARC Delegates Hold 2-Day Meeting in New Delhi

Indian Foreign Secretary's Speech

BK161035 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] India has called for greater interaction among the member nations of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation [SAARC]. Presiding over the SAARC Standing Committee meeting in New Delhi today, the foreign secretary, Mr K.P.S. Menon, said this is necessary in view of adverse external economic environment. He said regional cooperation must be comprehensive covering the vital areas which are still left out.

The foreign secretaries of Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Pakistan are attending the 2-day meeting. The secretary general of the SAARC Secretariat, Mr Abul Ahsan, is also participating. They will review the reports of various technical groups on terrorism and other areas and consider the report of the Programming Committee of senior officials which ended yesterday. The proposals will be submitted to the foreign ministers conference which opens on Thursday [18 June].

In his address, Mr Menon spoke of India's proposal for establishing a South Asian food security reserve. He said when implemented this project will go a long way in mitigating human sufferings in the region. He told the Standing Committee that a subscriber trunk dialing service will be introduced between India and Nepal. A similar facility will be available with Pakistan soon and with other member countries later. India and Bangladesh have already been connected by international subscriber dialing service.

Terrorism, Drug Trafficking Reports

BK161616 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] The standing committee of the foreign secretaries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation has given its approval to the report of the expert group on terrorism. The committee, which began its 2-day meeting in New Delhi this morning, considered the wide-ranging recommendations of the group on extradition for terrorist offences. The report will now be placed before the SAARC ministerial conference for adoption.

Another important subject which dominated the deliberations of the standing committee was prevention of drug trafficking and drug abuse among member nations. Recommendations of the expert committee to deal with this evil are also likely to be finalized during the ministerial meeting beginning on Thursday.

Briefing newsmen, the spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said the standing committee considered in detail the progress made so far in implementing the integrated program of action adopted at the Bangalore SAARC summit.

The chairman of the standing committee, the foreign secretary, Mr K.P.S. Menon, who presided over the meeting, described the agreement reached by the expert group on terrorism as a breakthrough. He said the group has succeeded in identifying a list of offences of a terrorist nature which for the purpose of extradition are not to be regarded as political. He said this is no mean achievement considering that there are very few forums in the world today where such an identification has been possible.

Mr Menon referred to the Indian proposal for establishing a South Asian food security reserve. He said when implemented this project will go a long way in mitigating human suffering in the region. Mr Menon called for greater interaction among the SAARC nations for regional cooperation.

Meanwhile, the foreign ministers of Maldives and Bhutan are already in the capital for the SAARC ministrial conference. Foreign ministers of Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka are expected to arrive tomorrow.

Cooperation, Progress Assessed

BK170932 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] In New Delhi, the SAARC countries are considering wide-ranging measures to check the menace of drug trafficking. The technical committee on the prevention of drug trafficking and drug abuse has suggested uniform legislation, particularly penalties to the extent possible. The report, which came in for consideration at a meeting of the Standing Committee of foreign secretaries, has also suggested periodic exchange of information and closer cooperation with intergovernmental, international, and regional organizations. Other suggestions include dossiers on drug traffickers and suspects.

The foreign secretaries, who are finalizing their recommendations for the ministrial meeting, are also considering in detail the progress made in implementing the integrated program of action. The program covers areas like agriculture and telecommunications. It was adopted at the Bangalore SAARC summit last year.

Meanwhile, the foreign ministers of the SAARC nations have started arriving in the capital to attend the meeting of the Council of Ministers. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, will inaugurate the meeting tomorrow.

Mr A.C.S. Hameed of Sri Lanka on arrival described his visit as yet another step in strengthening SAARC. The Nepalese foreign minister, Mr Shailendra Kumar Upadhyaya said the New Delhi meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss common problems of the region. The foreign ministers of Bhutan and Maldives have already arrived. The foreign ministers of Pakistan and Bangladesh are coming in the evening.

Before leaving Kathmandu for New Del'i, Mr Shailendra Kumar Upadhyaya said India and Nepal are likely to sign an agreement on Saturday to set up a joint commission. He said it will be an umbrella body taking care of all sectors of economic relations between the two countries.

Foreign Ministers Arrive

BK171601 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Speaking to the All India Radio correspondent on his arrival at Delhi airport, the Sri Lankan foreign minister, Mr A.C.S. Hameed, described his visit as yet another step in strengthening the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

The Pakistan foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, said the New Delhi meeting will promote cooperation between the SAARC nations and his country attaches great importance to it.

The Bangladesh foreign minister, Mr Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, expressed the hope that the meeting will explore new areas of cooperation.

The Nepalese foreign minister, Mr Shailendra Kumar Upadhyaya, said the meeting will give an opportunity to discuss common problems of the region. The foreign ministers of Bhutan and Maldives are already in the capital.

Abdus Sattar on Better Relations

BK170632 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Pakistan has always understood that joint efforts are necessary to promote better bilateral relations, regional cooperation, and overall development in South Asia. This was stated by Pakistani Foreign Secretary Abdus Sattar in an address to the SAARC Standing Committee meeting in New Delhi yesterday. He said that Pakistan has allocated 12.5 million rupees for SAARC activities during the next year. Apart from this, 500,000 rupees have been earmarked for stipends to SAARC students in Pakistani educational institutions as has been done in past years.

Gandhi Addresses Inaugural Session

BK180930 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has called on the South Asian nations to go beyond mere consolidation of regional cooperation. Inaugurating the 2-day meeting of the foreign ministers of SAARC nations in New Delhi today, Mr Gandhi said consolidation is important but not enough. There must also be expansion and growth. He said the SAARC programs should reach our peoples to make an impact on their lives in a tangible manner.

Foreign ministers of the seven South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation nations -- Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and India -- are participating in the 2-day deliberations. They will consider, among other things, the recommendations made by the SAARC Standing Committee for the program of action.

Referring to the Indian proposal to establish a South Asia food security reserve, Mr Gandhi stressed the need for a framework of regional self-reliance. He also emphasized the importance of conserving the environment and preserving our heritage. The prime minister said the problems of SAARC nations are many but similar. One country's solution often finds validity in another.

Proposing a vote of thanks, the foreign minister of Nepal, Mr Shailendra Kumar Upadhyaya, said that India's commitment truly reflected the common aspiration for a future of good-neighborly relations.

The people of South Asia are committed to strengthening SAARC.

Earlier, in his opening statement, the external affairs minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari said the SAARC charter envisages widening areas of agreement despite bilateral differences. The resolution of such differences will greatly contribute to promoting regional cooperation. India, he said, has been making persistent efforts to strengthen friendly relations with its neighbors. These efforts will continue, Mr Tiwari said.

The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has had informal talks with the foreign ministers of Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Maldives, and Bhutan. He met them soon after the inaugural session of the SAARC ministrial meeting at Vigyan Bhavan.

The external affairs minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, was also present.

Official Talks With Libyan Ministers Continue

Further on Information Accord

LD171811 Tripoli JANA in English 1641 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Algiers, al Sayf [June] 17, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — In Algiers yesterday an agreement on promoting the information co-operation between Great Jamahiriyah and sisterly Algeria was concluded.

It was signed from the Libyan Arab side by the secretary of the People's Committee for Information, Culture and Revolutionary Guidance, and from the Algerian side by Mr. Bachir Rouis, the minister of information.

This agreement includes, inter alia, the laying out of annual executive programmes focussing the economic and social gains achieved in both countries, apart from news coverage co-operation between JANA and the Algerian news agency, not to mention an exchange of radio and TV programmes as well as encouraging the holding of meetings among the press officials.

The agreement also includes the promotion of co-operation in the publication, distribution, advertising and opening of press centres.

The secretary of the People's Committee for Information, Culture and Revolutionary Guidance, and Mr. Rouis met following the conclusion of the above agreement with a number of officials in the Algerian information sector.

They discussed ways for implementing the bases agreed upon to consolidate programmes among information establishments of the two countries.

This comes within the purview of the unionist steps to achieve complementation in various spheres and carry out what has been agreed upon regarding the joint programmes between the General People's Committee and the Algerian Cabinet to attain a unity between the Arab people in both sisterly countries.

Talks Conclude 17 Jun

LD172141 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Excerpts] The fraternal Algerian-Libyan meeting has ended today in Algiers. The meeting took place between the most senior Algerian and Libyan officials and has enabled dialogue to deepen and continue. Our colleague, Brahim Douiech, attended the close of these talks. What now follows is his report:

These talks ended with a working session between Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Politburo and official of the Permanent Secretariat of the party's Central Committee, and Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the Libyan revolutionary leadership. The session was also attended by delegations of both countries.

The talks culminated in the publication of a joint communique. [passage omitted]

Afterward, the heads of both delegations exchanged speeches. Staff Maj 'Abd al-Salam Jallud expressed his total satisfaction with the results of the Algerian-Libyan talks, which embody the will of both political leaderships to deepen dialogue and intensify contacts. The communique also pointed to the preparation of a draft document on unification for submission to both nations' leaderships.

Mohamed Cherif Messaadia said that the unification proposal seeks to instill something new in pan-Arab and regional action, and opens new scope for serious and fruitful action not only for the Maghreb states but for all Arab countries as well. Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia also indicated that this unification proposal will be submitted to both countries' leaderships and might later be submitted for discussion on the level of militants and citizens.

The signing ceremony for the minutes of the talks between the two delegations took place at the People's National Assembly headquarters this evening. The minutes were signed by Djelloul Melaika, deputy speaker of the People's National Assembly, and 'Umar Ishkal, secretary of People's Congress Affairs of the Secretariat of the Libyan General People's Congress.

The two delegations, as stipulated in the minutes of the talks, agreed on forming a joint committee to be composed of 5 to 10 members from each side that will hold periodic meetings every 2 months in Libya and Algeria. The joint committee will look into and study laws to pinpoint similarities and differences so that they may become morehomogenous in the future. [passage omitted]

Mubarak Comments on Recent 'Violence,' Economy

NC171833 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Riyadh, 17 Jun (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has described conditions in Egypt as stable and stressed that the state's laws are being applied to deal with the recent incidents of violence.

In an interview published by the Saudi *Al-Riyad* newspaper today, the president expressed confidence that such isolated incidents will be dealt with and will cease. He emphasized that violence is neither a natural trait of Egyptians nor part of their traditions. Rather, he insisted, it is a contemporary phenomenon of today's world of which Egypt, a solidly democratic country, is only a part. Mubarak maintained that the scale of violence in Egypt is hardly comparable to that in other parts of the world, adding that the recent incidents should not be construed as part of any general trend.

With regard to the government's recent economic decisions, President Husni Mubarak expressed optimism over the prospects for reforming the Egyptian economy. He asserted that what really matters are continuous efforts to increase production.

In this context, President Mubarak pointed out that the recent economic decisions took into consideration the realization of the hopes and aspirations of the country's low-income groups. The president noted that the objective of these decisions is to reform the economy without adding to the suffering of the majority of low-income Egyptians.

The president said: Our major concern is the interests of low-income groups. I do not want limited groups to benefit at the expense of the majority with their problems and pain.

The president denied that any concessions had been made in Egypt's talks with the IMF, asserting that the talks would not have continued for 1 and 1/2 years if Egypt had been prepared to make concessions. As the president put it: Those who are ready to make concessions should do so early on and save themselves the trouble.

He noted that Egypt's economic reform was underway before the talks with the IMF had begun. The president asserted that the reform was deemed necessary in light of the country's political, social, and economic conditions. Even if there had been no talks with the IMF, we would have proceeded with the broad reforms and applied the same earnest measures.

Regarding assurances for investment in Egypt, Mubarak said that the wide-ranging reforms in Egypt would release the country's productive potential, which, in itself, would be the best guarantee for investment as the enlarged market would brighten the outlook for business.

We want to promote a favorable business climate and help prospective investors, Mubarak stated. He explained how Egypt has invested enormously in rebuilding its infrastructure and how these efforts have paid off in both industry and agriculture. The quality of our production has improved and we have managed to increase our agricultural output to the point where we have some surplus to export.

What is important, President Mubarak emphasized, is that we have a well-defined and well-publicized economic policy and that we have proved our competence in all fields.

President Husni Mubarak also praised Egyptian-Saudi ties, saying that both nations love and care for each other. In every gathering in Egypt, in every meeting with any group, I am always asked about our ties with Saudi Arabia, he said. Egyptians always single out Saudi Arabia for love and care, which is reciprocated by the feelings of the Saudis toward Egypt, Mubarak affirmed.

London Paper's Report on Mubarak Remarks Denied

JN171647 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 16 Jun 87 p 1

[Text] A responsible source yesterday stated that the article published in the latest edition of the London-based newspaper *Al-Tadamun* on President Husni Mubarak's statements to Egyptian press and information officials on 3 June is absolutely groundless. He pointed out that it is full of lies and tendentious comments and seeks to distort the facts and damage the positions of some friendly countries.

For his part, Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said that the Arab newspapers published the day after the president's meeting with the media officials contained a full report of Mubarak's statements. He stressed that the *Al-Tadamun* article is absolutely groundless. He also denied the allegations made by the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Qabas* with regard to an Egyptian mediation effort between Pakistan and Israel to persuade Israel not to attack Pakistani nuclear installations.

Reconciliation Efforts With Libya, Syria Reported

PM181139 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 15 June 87 pp 1,11

['Abd al-Nabi 'Abd al-Sattar Report: "Moroccan-Jordanian Attempts To Open Contact Channels Between Cairo, Tripoli, and Damascus"]

[Text] *Al-Wafd* has learned that Morocco's King Hassan has recently offered his services to the political leadership in Egypt to play a mediatory role between Egypt and Libya in order to settle their acute differences and open the door for dialogue between Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Egyptian officials. King Hassan is currently trying to persuade Col al-Qadhdhafi to accept Egypt's return to the Arab League Council. Egypt has recently received a Libyan offer via Morocco to send Ahmad Qadhdhaf al-Dam, Col al-Qadhdhafi's cousin, to Cairo to hold talks with Egyptian officials in an attempt to resolve the problems between the two countries within an Arab framework. The Egyptian political leadership is still considering whether to accept such an offer. Important developments have recently taken place to ease the severity of tension in Egyptian-Libyan relations. Such developments include the decision by both political leaderships — Egyptian and Libyan — to stop all media

campaigns between their two countries, and Egypt's refusal to back Chad militarily in its current war with Libya. These developments also led to the opening of a contact channel between Cairo and Tripoli.

Al-Wafd has learned that Egypt has expressed its readiness to receive a Libyan Air Force crew to return two C-130 and "Chinook" aircraft. Egypt has made this conditional upon the release of three Egyptians who were kidnapped by Libyan border guards a year ago. Egypt has also made it conditional that direct negotiations be conducted to determine dues and compensation to be paid to about 100,000 Egyptian citizens whom the Libyan authorities expelled 2 years ago. The Moroccan mediation efforts are part of the declared Arab and international mediation attempts being made by Sudan, the YAR, Ethiopia, and the Soviet Union to avoid an armed clash on the Egyptian-Libyan borders. *Al-Wafd* has also learned that Jordan's King Husayn is now working toward holding an Egyptian-Syrian summit in Amman, which he would attend. It has been reported that Dr Usamah al-Baz, the Foreign Ministry's first under secretary and the president's adviser for political affairs, may meet with Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' in Amman next month to discuss ways of clearing relations between the two countries and bringing their views closer. King Husayn has recently made lightning visits to both Cairo and Damascus.

The attempts to reconcile the two countries made by Dr Mahmud Riyadh, former Arab League secretary general, were suspended following Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's attack on Egypt at the Islamic summit conference held in Kuwait at the end of last January.

Security Arrests Suspects in Abu Basha Shooting

NC180612 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2258 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Cairo, 17 Jun (MENA) — *Al-Jumhuriyah* reports that the Egyptian security authorities have apprehended the people accused of attempting to assassinate former Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha. The Al-Jizah prosecutor is currently interrogating them.

In its Thursday issue, the paper notes that three persons have been accused of the crime. One of them, who comes from Bulaq al-Dakrur, stole the car used in the incident from the Al-Jizan Governorate and then sold the vehicle to the other two, who are from the Al-Daqahliyah Governorate. The three collaborated on carrying out the murder attempt.

The paper states that eyewitnesses recognized the three during a legal lineup of the detainees held by the public prosecution.

The paper reports that these people have admitted to commiting the crime, stating that they threw their weapons into the Al-Mansuriyah canal in Al-Haram. Security authorities, however, have not been able to find the weapons.

The paper adds that the identity of the three accused, their motives, and their confessions will be announced after the investigations are complete.

Security Chief Comments on Number of Detainees

NC171420 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1325 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Cairo, 17 Jun, (MENA) — Public Security Director Major General 'Abd al-Halim Musa said that only 746 individuals are being detained in Egypt at present, 253 of whom are being held in connection with criminal offenses following the recent wave of assassination attempts, including the attacks against former Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha, *Al-Musawwar* Editor in Chief Makram Muhammad Ahmad, and U.S. Embassy officials in Cairo.

At a news conference today, the public security director reported that 267 people are in custody in connection with the misappropriation of public funds or illegal foreign exchange dealings. He added that the 226 other detainees are suspected of trafficking in narcotics.

'Crisis' With Israel Over Compensation Claims

PM181009 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 12 June 87 p 1

['Abd al-Nabi 'Abd al-Sattar Report: "Crisis Between Egypt and Israel Over Compensation for Israeli Victims in Egypt"]

[Text] A severe crisis has recently erupted between the Egyptian Government and Israeli authorities because of Egypt's refusal to settle the problem of compensation for the families of the victims of the Ra's Barakah incident, which claimed the lives of seven Israeli civilians. The Israeli Foreign Ministry demanded that Egypt quickly form an Egyptian-Israeli committee to determine the amount of compensation to be paid to the victims of the assassination of Israeli administrative attache Atrakchi, which took place in Al-Ma'adi, and also to determine compensation for the victims of the Cairo International Fair incident, which claimed the life of Eti Tal'or [name as published], an Israeli Embassy employee who was in charge of the Israeli section at the fair. Egypt previously had asked the Israeli Interior Ministry to postpone Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's visit to Cairo, scheduled for next July, until the end of this year. Egypt attributed this to current difficulties in security.

Al-Wafd has learned that Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres recently rejected a U.S. request to hold secret meetings in Cairo between high-ranking Israeli officials and Jordanian officials to conduct talks on concluding a separate reconciliation agreement between Jordan and Israel under U.S. supervision, similar to that of the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement. *Al-Wafd* has also learned that the Israeli Foreign Ministry recently informed Egypt of its dissatisfaction with the slow procedures to normalize relations between the two countries and also Egypt's rejection of a number of Israeli offers to establish investment projects in Sinai and the western desert. The Israeli Foreign Ministry has also expressed its concern about Egyptian officials' refusal to respond to all official invitations to visit Israel, first and foremost President Husni Mubarak.

Abu Ghazalah Pays Official Visit to Romania

For Budapest media reportage on the visit by Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minsiter and minister of defense and war production, to Romania, see the Romania section of the 17 June East Europe *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Planning Minister Discusses New 5-Year Plan

JN131425 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 9 Jun 87 p 9

[Text] Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and cooperation, delivered a statement to the People's Assembly yesterday on the second 5-year plan for economic and social development for the 1987-92 period and the program for the first year of the 5-year plan for the 1987-88 period. He said that the plan is based on achieving the largest return for our resources. He noted that planning for development does not conflict with supporting the private sector's role and expanding its production activity. The presence of a plan that has well-defined objectives, policies, and development projects and that is binding for the public sector provides the private sector with a clear view and a favorable climate for serious action and effective contribution to the various activities of the national economy. The plan also enjoys the necessary flexibility that enables society to deal with domestic, regional, and international changes without departing from the general strategic line. The plan maintains a balance between economic and social needs to achieve stability and raise the living standard of the broad masses of people.

In his statement, the deputy prime minister noted that the plan's main starting points are fully compatible with the three main axes of the economic and social development process which the plan seeksto bring about by the 21st century. These are as follows:

— Strengthening the intrinsic capability of the Egyptian economy in financing development. This requires concentrating on commodity production, not merely by intensifying investment but primarily by raising the standard of production and improving performance.

— Continuing to support and reform the material and social infrastructure. We have all seen how shortcomings in the networks of the infrastructure resulted in bottlenecks that had a negative effect on development in the 1960's and 1970's.

— Intensifying interest in the demographic and environmental aspect of development to establish a pattern of economic and demographic settlement that serves specific development goals.

The deputy prime minister referred to the achievements of the first 5-year plan for the 1982/83-1986/87 period, the most important of which are:

— Increasing production from approximately 35.5 billion pounds to approximately 48.9 billion pounds during the 5 years of the plan on the basis of the prices of the base year 1981-82; that is an increase of 13.4 billion pounds at an annual growth rate of 6.6 percent. The annual rate of growth was 6.5 percent for the commodity sectors, 6.2 percent for the production services sectors, and 7.7 percent for the social services sectors.

— Increasing the GNP during the 5 years of the plan from 20.1 billion pounds to approximately 28 billion pounds at the prices of the base year 1981-82, representing an increase of 7.9 billion pounds at an average annual growth rate of 6.8 percent. The annual growth rate was approximately 6.2 percent for commodity sectors, 7.1 percent for production services sectors, and 8 percent for the social services sectors.

— Investment expenditure during the 5 years of the plan totaled approximately 36.4 billion pounds. The public sector was responsible for about 27.1 billion pounds or 74.4 percent of the total investment expenditure, while the private sector was responsible for about 9.3 billion pounds or 25.6 percent. Therefore, the average annual investment was approximately 25 percent of the GNP. This means that society tended to sacrifice approximately one-quarter of production for social and economic development purposes. Investment expenditure was 23.7 percent of total investment for replacement and renovation and 12.4 percent of investment for new projects.

He pointed out that actual use of foreign loans over the years covered by the plan has been directed to the following areas:

— Completing the infrastructure systems that underlie the process of development and continued future growth.

— Developing and rehabilitating the means of production to ensure increased and improved production.

— Financing the import of production requirements and the spare parts needed to maintain production levels and then work to boost them.

— Financing the import of certain basic foodstuffs to bridge the gap between production and consumption, foremost among them being wheat and flour. The plan has sought to improve Egypt's foreign debt structure to ease the burden of servicing debts through making use of long-term loans, which have an advantage over other foreign loans in terms of interest rate, longer grace periods, and repayment. This policy is reflected in increased debts in long-term loans from 57.5 percent in 1981 to 63.4 percent of Egypt's overall foreign debt in 1986.

Dr Kamal al-Janzuri reviewed the goals of the new 5-year development plan based on 1986-87 as the starting year. The plan seeks to increase local production by approximately 22.6 billion pounds at an annual average rate of 5.5 percent to reach 96.8 billion pounds at 1986-87 prices at the end of the plan. On the whole, the plan seeks to increase commodity production by:

— Raising agricultural output from 12.3 billion pounds in 1986-87 to approximately 14.7 billion pounds in 1991-92 with an increase of about 2.445 billion pounds or at the approximate rate of 3.7 percent annual growth. This increase will be realized through the target combination of crops and increasing the productivity of old land in addition to the new land that was reclaimed during the first 5-year plan.

— Boosting industrial production by approximately 8.830 billion pounds, or at an annual rate of approximately 7.3 percent. Chemicals account for approximately 23.3 percent of the gross increase in targeted industrial production in the plan at a growth rate of about 51.3 percent. The foodstuff industry accounts for approximately 31 percent at a rate of 40 percent, engineering industries account for 13.3 percent at a rate of 39.9 percent, and textile industries account for 21.9 percent of the other industrial production at a growth rate of approximately 38.6 percent.

— Boosting production in the electricity sector by approximately 330 million pounds, or at the rate of 40.1 percent during the plan at an annual rate of approximately 7 percent.

— Boosting production in the construction sector to reach 5.922 billion pounds in 1991-92 against 4.561 billion pounds in 1986-87 at an average annual rate of 5.4 percent.

He noted that the most important feature of target investments in the second 5-year plan is the implementation of approximately 46.5 billion pounds in investments against approximately 36.4 billion in the first 5-year plan. The public sector share of the plan's investments totals approximately 28.5 billion pounds (61.3 percent) against 27.1 billion pounds in the first plan (74.5 percent). Meanwhile, the role of the private sector has increased; its share in the second plan reached approximately 18 billion pounds (38.7 percent) against 9.3 billion in the first plan (25.5 percent).

With regard to financing investment for the public sector in the second 5-year plan, the plan evisages that 51.6 percent of such investments will be financed by the National Investment Bank; approximately 6.3 percent will be financed through grants and aid; approximately 18.9 percent will be financed through loans and external credit facilities; and approximately 23.2 percent will be contributed through self-created finances.

— The population policy seeks to reduce the rate of population growth so that the rate of natural increase will fall from 2.8 percent in 1986-87 to 2.6 percent in 1991-92.

— The plan seeks to increase the labor force by 2.1 million during the 5 years of the plan so that the entire labor force will total approximately 14.3 million workers by the end of the plan in 1991-92. The plan seeks to create approximately 55.1 percent of the total job opportunities during the 5 years of this plan for the commodity sectors, 18 percent of the job opportunities for the production services sector, and 26.9 percent of the job opportunities for the social services sector.

— Corresponding to the above, wages will be increased from approximately 15.3 billion pounds in 1986-87 to approximately 20 billion pounds in 1991-92, an increase of 30.7 percent.

With regard to contributions from the channels of international economic cooperation to the plan's investment, the plan takes into consideration the cost of each category and the potential that could be created in the following manner:

— Approximately 1.8 billion pounds in the form of foreign aid and grants, constituting 6.3 percent of the public sector's total investment in the plan.

— Approximately 3.3 billion pounds in the form of long-term foreign public loans, constituting 11.6 percent of the public sector's total investment in the plan. In addition to the target grants and loans, such loans mean the continuation of the policy of relying on the less costly international sources of finance (public loans), or the sources that contribute toward reducing the total cost of external borrowing (loans).

— Approximately 2.1 billion pounds in the form of long-term and short-term foreign credit facilities, constituting 7.4 percent of the public sector's total investment in the plan.

In distributing foreign funds among the national economy sectors (as part of public sector investments), the plan gives absolute priority to the commodity sectors, in view of their ability to shoulder the burden of servicing the external debt more than other sectors. Consequently, 67.9 percent of the foreign resources which it is estimated will be provided has been allocated to the commodity sectors, 15.9 percent has been allocated to public services, and 11.3 percent has been allocated to production services.

In designating priorities for financing from various sources and types of international cooperation, the plan takes the following points in descending order into consideration:

— Financing from grants and aid should basically be allocated to the public services, power, agriculture, irrigation and drainage, health services, educational services, industry and mining, transport and communications and storage, and other sectors.

— Financing from public loans should basically be allocated to power, industry and mining, transport and communications and storage, public services, health services, agriculture, tourism, contracting services, and irrigation and drainage.

— Financing from credit facilities should basically be allocated to industry, mining, petroleum, transport and communications and storage, power, irrigation and drainage, contracting services, public services, and other sectors.

Regarding trade dealings in terms of commodities and services with other countries, the main objective of the plan is to increase exports, correct the structural imbalance in the trade balance, and limit imports. Thus, the following has been decided:

— Increasing the outcome of industrial exports to 13 percent and agricultural exports to 5 percent of the overall revenues in 1991-92 instead of 8.3 percent and 4.4 percent in 1986-87.

— Developing tourism revenues by an annual average rate of 17.8 percent.

— Regarding the targeted outcome of services and transfers, the plan is reserved in assessing them, particularly that related to fees for crossing the Suez Canal or the transfer of Egyptians working abroad. This is to avoid any unexpected effects on the national

economy and to affirm the principle of relying on resources that cannot be affected by outside considerations and which can be achieved through national will.

The plan also calls for limiting the increase in importing consumer commodities to an annual average of 0.7 percent. The increase in importing intermediate commodities, according to the plan, should be approximately 3.9 percent annually. Meanwhile, investment revenues will be reduced at an average annual rate of 3.3 percent. The deputy prime minister said that the most important factors on which the monetary and credit policy is based are the following:

— Linking monetary and credit developments with development in gross national production, particularly in commodity production.

— Concentrating on the utilization of savings as a basic task of the monetary policy, particularly since the increasing dependence of the plan on the private sector will broaden the task of the banking, credit, and finance system. We must be aware that this matter requires speed and flexibility by financial brokers in general, as well as the avoidance of routine work and bureaucracy.

The interest rate will continue to be a primary instrument for promoting similar methods of payment to provide the requirements of credit, especially for financing the allocated investments for the public and private sectors. The purpose of this is to maintain the variation in the credit interest rate, its channels, and prices for both local and foreign currencies.

— Avoiding different exchange rates and endeavoring to gradually unify the foreign currency market so that dealing with foreign currencies will be conducted through banks serving the national economy.

The financial policy is firmly linked to the production of commodities and services, which determines the size and scope of the government services extended to society free of charge. The task of the financial policy is to achieve balance between expenditure and revenues, and subsequently avoid any deficit in the general budget,or at least adopt the necessary measures to eliminate this deficit within a specified period of time. This can be achieved by striving to make the increase in the public expenditure rate lower than the growth rate of the overall local production of the public sector. Morever, the growth rate of revenues must be higher than the expenditure rate. This should apply not only to the overall deficit but also to the gross deficit.

The financial policy also depends on the two types of taxes. The direct taxes are used to enhance national revenues by upgrading the efficiency of the taxation system, expanding the purview of the application of taxation, and eliminating tax evasion. As for indirect taxes, they are used in a flexible manner as guidance and financial instruments for the encouragement of production and exports and for limiting imports. This can be done by taking into consideration the need to coordinate among all types of indirect taxes and to view them as complementing one another, especially since they are first applied to national consumer products.

The pricing and income policies are among the general policies stemming from the development plan. In this respect, the second 5-year plan is based on the following factors:

1. The avoidance of structural faults in prices and the curtailment, as much as possible, of the negative results that these structural faults may produce by carrying out a general review of revenues and their various uses.

2. The increase in farmers' income through the enactment of fair prices for agricultural produce while taking into consideration the need to decrease production costs and increase productivity by using modern technology, introducing improved and new specimens, and benefiting from mechanization.

3. Emphasizing the aspect of social justice in the pricing system by protecting those in the fixed-income bracket and by supporting them through a reduction in the cost of services and basic goods.

4. A constant supervision of prices and the smooth flow of a sound wholesale and retail trade unimpeded by any monopoly or manipulation.

The deputy prime minister also stated that the second 5-year plan has a new dimension: an environmental dimension which focuses on the population's assembly points and on their activities through the mobilization of the governorates' resources, the protection of arable land, and the encouragement of the private sector to establish projects in the governorates.

Dr Al-Janzuri said that in view of the private sector's unique role in the plan, this sector will invest in various fields as follows:

A. 2.7 billion pounds or 53.7 percent of the aggregate investments in the agricultural sector will be used for land reclamation and raising the quality of land and the production of seeds, as well as for agricultural mechanization and marketing, poultry projects, cattle breeding, and fisheries.

B. 6.4 billion pounds or 52.5 percent of the overall investments in the industrial and mining sector will be used to increase the level of production of final and intermediary consumer commodities and capital commodities; create foreign markets for Egyptian commodities, especially in Arab and African countries; and establish new communities.

C. 1.4 billion pounds or 23 percent of overall investments in the transport and communications sector will be used in projects for intercity transportation, as well as air and sea transport. The plan has also left the door open for the private sector to participate in bus transportation, cold storage transportation, and other types of private transportation inside and outside the cities.

D. 0.6 billion pounds or 51.4 percent of overall investments in the tourism sector will be used to carry out new projects in tourist places, especially the new sites in the Red Sea and Sinai. This is in addition to contribution to certain other local tourist projects.

E. 6.6 billion pounds or 97.1 percent of overall investments in the housing sector will be used in building 900,000 housing units

throughout the years of the plan. Of these, 630,000 units will be allocated to the economic level, 243,000 to the medium level, and 27,000 to the above medium level. The private sector's role at the economic level will be mainly restricted to major construction work. The government will provide the funds through easy loans.

The first year of the second 5-year plan seeks to achieve the following:

— Increasing the value of the GNP from 40.8 billion pounds in 1986-87 to 43.1 billion pounds in 1987-88; in other words, an average growth rate of 5.4 percent. The various sectors of commodity production are expected to contribute 48.5 percent of the growth, the productive services sectors 33.6 percent, and the social services sectors 17.9 percent.

— Carrying out investments totaling 8.6 billion pounds. The private and cooperative sector will contribute 2.8 billion pounds; in other words, 32.6 percent of the total investments. Approximately 50.3 percent of these investments will be placed in the commodity production sectors, 18.2 percent in the productive services sectors, and 31.5 percent in the social services sectors.

— Increasing family and public consumption by 4.2 percent; in other words, raising it from 40.6 billion pounds in 1986-87 to 42.3 billion pounds in 1987-88.

— Increasing the labor force to 12.6 million, an increase of 404,000 over what is expected in 1986-87. Of this increase, 222,500 will be absorbed by the commodity sectors, 70,700 by the productive services sectors, and 110,000 by the social services sectors. The total wages will reach 16.1 billion pounds compared to 15.3 billion pounds in 1986-87; in other words, an increase of 5.2 percent.

— Increasing commodity exports by 7 percent, agricultural exports by 10.5 percent, and industrial exports by 9 percent. Commodity imports will decrease by 1.1 percent, consumer commodity imports will increase by 1.6 percent and intermediary commodities by 3.9 percent, while investment commodity imports will decrease by 3.4 percent.

— Reducing the current deficit in the balance of trade from 2.066 billion pounds in 1986-87 to 1.600 billion pounds in 1987-88.

Ministers Discuss Budget, Military Expenditure

JN170637 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 15 Jun 87 p 6

['Isa Murshid dispatch]

[Excerpts] Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation, has affirmed that Egypt has not used any foreign loan to purchase military hardware. He also said that since the second half of 1981, Egypt has purchased no military hardware with Egyptian money and that the cost of all the military hardware purchased with the U.S. grant totaled $1.3 billion annually.

Finance Minister Dr Muhammad al-Razzaz stated that 94.7 percent of the new budget is covered by local resources, which affirms the government policy calling for self-reliance. He added that the new budget does not involve any new burdens on the citizens, particularly with regard to income taxes.

The People's Assembly Planning and Budget Committee held a meeting on 13 June, under the chairmanship of Dr Hilmi Nimr, to resume discussion of the 1987-92 development plan and the 1987-88 state budget. Representatives of the NDP, Labor Party, and Neo-Wafd Party participated in the discussions, which affirmed the need to reduce deficit, confront tax evasion, and stop inaccurate taxation. [passage omitted]

Dr al-Janzuri said that expenditure in the Armed Forces totaled 2.061 billion pounds, 188 million pounds more than last year. He also reported that civil projects sought to achieve self-sufficiency in agricultural and animal production, as well as in housing.

'Alawi Hafiz called for presenting the Armed Forces' budget in detail to the People's Assembly for discussion, as well as to the Accounting Department. He also called for presenting the War Production Ministry budget to the People's Assembly.

The finance minister said that a special branch exists in the Accounting Department to deal with the Armed Forces and that this branch prepares its reports and presents them to the People's Assembly. However, no country in the world presents its military budget for discussion. Budgets of armies and defense are completely secret, the finance minister asserted. [passage omitted]

Delegation Discusses French Hostages, Chad

LD172055 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0831 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 17 Jun (KUNA) — Today's edition of the newspaper *Al-Ittihad*, which is published here, says that a high-level Libyan delegation led by Ahmad Qadhdhaf al-Dam, a cousin of Libyan President [as received] Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, is visiting France. The head of the delegation is reportedly negotiating a settlement to the Chadian situation through national reconciliation under African auspices.

Informed political sources in Paris told the paper that negotiations also involve the release of a number of Libyan prisoners captured in the most recent fighting in northern Chad. In addition, the same sources stated that France is interested in remarks by Brigadier Ghazi Kan'an, the chief of Syrian intelligence in Lebanon, on the transfer of two French hostages in Lebanon to Libya, despite the fact that a denial was issued at the time.

The sources, which neither confirmed nor denied the presence of the two hostages in Libya, have pointed out that France has contacted the Libyan Government for confirmation of this report on the striking of a deal. Under the terms of such a deal, the two hostages would be returned in exchange for the release of the captured Libyan soldiers.

The sources confirmed that talks between the two sides are progressing well and that France told Libya's envoy it agrees with Tripoli that the disputed Aozou border strip should remain part of Libya, not Chad.

Matters concerning the two hostages are expected to be cleared up in the course of negotiations between the two sides.

'Text' of 17 Jun Unity Communique With Algeria

LD172240 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Libyan Arab-Algerian unification talks ended in the Algerian capital this evening. The talks were attended by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and head of the FLN Party Permanent Secretariat. The session was also attended by a delegation from the General People's Congress Secretariat, the secretary and members of the General People's Committee, members of the Revolutionary Committees movement; the secretary of the Libyan Arab Brotherhood Bureau in Algeria, and by experts and specialists from various sectors. The Algerian prime minister and members of the government were present as well, as were members of the FLN Permanent Secretariat, party and government (?officials), and the Algerian ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah.

A final communique was issued at the session, and its text is as follows:

In accordance with the political will of the Algerian and Libyan leaders, to translate into reality the results of the I-N-Amenas and Surt summits between Brother President Chadli Bendjedid of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, secretary general of the FLN, and Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution; in implementation of the action program agreed upon to fulfill the hopes of the Libyan and Algerian Arab people for unity in the Arab Maghreb, which is considered an (?important step) toward comprehensive Arab unity; and as part of the regular meetings between the two countries, Brother Staff Maj 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud — heading an important delegation from the General People's Congress Secretariat, the General People's Committee, the Revolutionary Committee movement, and various economic and technical sectors — paid a visit to Algeria on 17-20 Sawwal [words indistinct], corresponding to 14-17 June 1987.

During its stay, the delegation was received by Brother President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and FLN secretary general.

The Libyan Arab delegation held talks on political, economic, and legislative matters with an Algerian group led by Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and head of the FLN Central Committee. The delegation also included members of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, the government, the National People's Committee, and officials from various economic and technical sectors.

This important meeting reflects the joint interests of the Libyan Arab and Algerian people's [words indistinct]

As for politics, the two sides recognized the fact that conditions favor a start to the process of achieving those goals to which the region's peoples aspire — the creation of a union among their countries as a basic step toward comprehensive Arab unity. The two sides studied a political document concerning the union between Libya and Algeria, which will be submitted to leaders in both countries.

In the legislative field, the General People's Congress Secretariat delegation held a number of meetings with the president and members of the National People's Assembly. The talks covered the compatibility and harmony between the two countries' legislative experiences and the preparation of proposals to unite the two legislatures within a specific period.

In implementing the joint action program between the two countries, there was a meeting of the supreme committee, which consists of Brother Umar al-Muntasir, secretary of the General People's Committee, the brother members of the General People's Committee of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi, alternate member of the [Algerian] Political Bureau and prime minister, and members of the Algerian Government. They discussed all preparations for integration in the economic, industrial, cultural, social, and technical fields.

During the visit, they also signed accords to form joint companies, and to prepare general and specialized economic programs serving the goals of the Arab people in the Great Jamahiriyah and Algeria for integration and unity.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with the executive steps taken

in the unification action program agreed upon by the two countries. They also agreed to continue their meetings according to an agreed upon schedule.

The minutes of the meetings between the General People's Congress Secretariat of the Great Jamahiriyah and the Algerian National People's Congress were signed this afternoon in the Algerian capital. This complements the [word indistinct] steps and the unification dialogue currently under way in Algeria. The minutes included the formation of a joint committee of 5 to 10 members from each side. It will meet every 2 months in the Great Jamahiriyah and in Algeria. A delegation from the Algerian National People's Assembly will also attend sessions of the Basic People's Congresses, while a delegation from the General People's Congress will attend sessions of the National People's Assembly. In addition, the minutes covered an agreement on exchanging documents and publications issued in each country, and cooperation and coordination between the two [word indistinct] in international issues of mutual interest. The minutes also specified that the first session of the joint committee should be held in Tripoli in the Great Jamahiriyah during the second half of July.

Jallud Receives GUNT Leader Goukouni in Algiers

LD180819 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0115 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud received Brother Goukouni Oueddei at his Algiers residence yesterday.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Chadian Rebel Officials

LD170047 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has received Brother Mahamat Abba Said, one of the founding leaders of Frolinat and commander of the Supreme Council of the Chadian 1st Army, and Brother Rakhis Manani of the Chadian Democratic Revolutionary Council.

Receives Islamic Call Members

LD172148 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] At noon today, the brother leader of the revolution received brother members of the World Council for the Islamic Call. The session was also attended by the brother secretary of the council and the secretary of the World Islamic Call Society.

Meets Sudanese in Banghazi

LD171652 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has held a meeting with the Sudanese Revolutionary Committees in Banghazi to mobilize the revolutionary forces and the Revolutionary Committees Movement in Sudan and the Great Jamahiriyah, and to start marshaling the masses of the two fraternal countries to achieve unity between them. The goal is also an immediate start to the establishment of comprehensive Arab unity and struggle against the enemy, who threatens the Arab nation and tolls the bell of annihilation.

PLF Official Aziz Arrives in Tripoli 17 Jun

LD172307 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2200 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Brother 'Ali Aziz, member of the Palestinian Liberation Front [PLF] Political Bureau, arrived in Tripoli this afternoon for a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

Spokesman Denies Intention To Meet Algerians

LD171635 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1548 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] A spokesman for the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation denied the rumors reported by an Arab magazine published in Paris. The magazine cites what it described as "Moroccan political circles" "with regard to an imminent meeting" in Madrid between Moroccan and Algerian officials from both countries' Ministries of the Interior and Foreign Affairs.

The spokesman categorically denied these rumors and the intentions they harbor.

Talks With Bulgarian Deputy Chairman Open 17 Jun

LD171747 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Excerpts] The fifth session of the Moroccan-Bulgarian permanent intergovernmental commission opened today at the Foreign Ministry. The Moroccan side was chaired by Mr Mohamed Kabbaj, minister of equipment and vocational cadre training, and the Bulgarian side by Mr Aleksey Ivanov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Committee for Agriculture and Forestry.

At the start of the session, Mr Mohamed Kabbaj noted the importance of this encounter, which is considered a new occasion for studying ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation in various fields. This is especially important because both countries have significant economic potential and objectives, as well as a strong determination to reinforce and bolster economic relations. [passage omitted]

Mr Kabbaj noted that Moroccan exports to Bulgaria have dropped significantly over the last few years. One example is that phosphate exports to Bulgaria, which totaled 470,000 tonnes in 1979, dropped to less than 70,000 tonnes in 1986. Mr Kabbaj said that the trade accord the two countries would sign on the sidelines of this session would be one of the most important factors favoring intensification of bilateral exchanges beginning next year. [passage omitted]

The head of the Bulgarian side, Mr Ivanov, lauded the Moroccan-Bulgarian joint commission created in 1979, saying that it had given real momentum to the economic cooperation begun more than 20 years ago. [passage omitted] He stated Bulgaria's willingness to initiate comprehensive cooperation with Morocco in various economic, scientific, and technical fields. [passage omitted]

Japanese Foreign Minister Begins Official Talks

Kuranari Arrives 11 Jun

LD121355 Rabat MAP in English 1205 GMT 12 Jun 87

[Text] Rabat, June 12 (MAP) — Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali held here Thursday a work session with visiting Japanese Peer Tadashi Kuranari.

Kuranari who arrived in Morocco the same day on a two-day visit, the first one ever by a head of Japanese diplomacy to the Kingdom, signed with Filali documents relating to cultural assistance, and the purchase and installation of equipments destined to the Mohammed V Theatre mainly.

The head of Japanese diplomacy hailed existing cultural cooperation and called for consolidation of political and economic exchanges between the two countries.

Filali said cultural exchanges were the best means to promote understanding in the world and announced the holding of a Moroccan cultural week in Japan next year.

The spokesman of the Japanese Foreign Affairs Ministry Nobutake Odano said after the meeting that talks were "fruitful" and relations between the two countries "(?are) promising".

While briefing the press, Odano recalled Crown Prince Sidi Mohamed's recent visit to Japan and stressed the importance of Kuranari's visit aimed at exploring Moroccan untapped potentials and further avenues of cooperation.

The two ministers, he said, brought up the Casablanca subway project, investment opportunities in Morocco for Japanese firms, cooperation in agriculture, and the project of the Africa-Europe fixed connection through the Gibraltar Strait. Japan, added the spokesman, is also to conduct feasibility studies on the promotion of mineral resources in the Haouz region.

Meets King Hassan, Minister

LD130146 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 12 Jun 87

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Hassan II, may God grant him victory, accompanied by his royal highness Crown Prince Sidi Mohammed, received Mr Tadashi Kuranari, the Japanese foreign minister, and his accompanying delegation in the Throne Hall of the Royal Palace in Marakech this evening. [passage omitted]

His Majesty King Hassan II, may God grant him victory, accompanied by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Sidi Mohammed, then held talks with the Japanese foreign minister. These talks were attended by Foreign Minister Abdellatif Filali and the new Japanese ambassador to Morocco.

King, Kuranari View Gulf War

OW130455 Tokyo KYODO in English 0437 GMG 13 Jun 87

[Text] Marakech, Morocco, June 12 KYODO — King Hassan II of Morocco told Japanese Foreign Minister Tadashi Kuranari Friday [12 June] that he hopes an international peace conference on the Middle East will be held and that U.S. and Soviet participation in the process is indispensable to achieving peace, Japanese officials said.

King Hassan, meeting Kuranari in this ancient capital, added that while most countries are fed up with war in the Middle East,

the countries involved are not willing to compron.ise because they seek peace in different ways, the officials said.

Kuranari, who arrived here one day after attending the summit of major industrialized nations in Venice, said the seven-year old Iran-Iraq war is now in a critical phase and that he will ask Iranian leaders to carefully assess the current situation, they said.

The king told Kuranari that it is not easy to turn the Iranian leaders toward making peace, the officials said.

Kuranari will visit Iran June 14-15 to exchange views with Iranian leaders and then fly to Singapore to attend an enlarged foreign ministerial conference of the Association of the Southeast Asian Nations.

Prime Minister Returns from Paris Talks

LD151355 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Rabat, June 15 (MAP) — Moroccan Premier Azzedine Laraki returned here Sunday coming from Paris where he chaired the first session of the year of the Academy [as received] of the Kingdom of Morocco.

This session, the first one held abroad, was devoted to measures to be enforced in case of nuclear accidents. Participants were invited to the seat of the French Academy becoming the first delegation to have ever been solemnly welcomed by the prestigious institution.

The Moroccan premier also conferred during his stay in the French capital with Premier Jacques Chirac on bilateral relations, regional and international issues.

Committees Drafting Alternative to Islamic Laws
JN172020 Khartoum SUNA in English
1713 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Khartoum, June 17 (SUNA) — The concerned committees at the attorney general chamber are currently preparing the draft of the alternative laws proposed to substitute those of Sept. 1983 — the Islamic shari'a imposed by ousted President Numayri, Attorney General 'Abd al-Mahmud Haj Salih said today.

"The drafting of the alternative laws comes in the light of the political directive which calls for the cancellation of the laws" Saleh added.

The attorney general pointed that the formulation of the laws will follow the policy statement — delivered by Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi recently — which calls for laying down Islamic shari'a laws in the Moslems area and secular laws in non-Moslems area.

Finance Minister Views Italian Aid, IMF Talks
JN111203 Khartoum SUNA in English
1008 GMT 11 Jun 87

[Text] Khartoum, June 11 (SUNA) — Italy has agreed to support the new agricultural season by providing the agricultural imputs, finance and economic planning minister Dr. Bashir 'Umar said. He noted that a delegation led by Finance Ministry undersecretary has left for Rome for talks with officials there on this regard.

On the other hand, 'Umar has stated that the economic sectors ministers in their recent meeting have stressed the necessity of the existing of a unified body to supervise the investment process.

The meeting has also stressed the importance of creating a unified law to regulate the investment activities and assigned commerce, supply and cooperation minister to take concrete decisions concerning the laws and the organizational structure of the investment body, the minister said.

Meanwhile, he indicated that talks between Sudan and the International Monetary Fund IMF, scheduled for next month, would be postponed till next August.

Government's Struggle With Armed Forces Noted
EA171705 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English
1300 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Reliable sources have disclosed to Radio SPLA that Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, Sudan's prime minister and minister of defense, has asked the retired Lieutenant General Muhammad Tawfiq Khalil to accept reinstatement into the Army as commander in chief. Lt Gen Khalil, who had held the position of chief of staff on the Transitional Military Council of General Siwar al-Dhahab, is said to have demanded the fulfillment of three main conditions before he could take up the offer. The sources revealed that Lt Gen Tawfiq Khalil wants the defense portifolio along with the post of commander in chief. He has also asked to be given a free hand in making retirements and reinstatement within the Army. According to the sources, Lt Gen Tawfiq Khalil has stressed that as a necessary condition for him to head the defense establishment, the head of the state and the prime minister should refrain from interfering in purely military affairs. The role Lt Gen Tawfiq Khalil is reported to be envisaging for the two political leaders is the drawing up of a broad policy framework that will be ultimately subject to his own personal approval. The sources said that Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi is now studying Lt Gen Khalil's conditions.

Meanwhile, the present Army commander in chief, General Fawzi Ahmad al-Fadil, has been confined to his private residence on Tuti Island on a forced and open leave ever since the capture of Jokau by the SPLA at the end of last month. The fall of Jokau has been blamed on his alleged incompetency. Gen Fawzi Ahmad al-Fadil and his chief of staff, in addition to the three deputy chiefs of staff, has had heated exchanges of words with the prime minister, Mr al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, following the loss of Jokau to the SPLA, and are now widely believed to be on their way to retirement. It is anticipated that Gen Fawzi Ahmad al-Fadil will be succeeded by General (Mahdi Babu Nimir), an (?older) Ummah Party member and strong favorite of Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, if Gen Muhammad Tawfiq Khalil does not eventually take up the position.

In another development, retired General (Yusuf Ahmad Yusuf), a prominent Army officer whose wise council on the ongoing war had been frequently rejected by Numayri, has been approached by Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi with a view to enlisting his aid. The sources said that retired Gen Yusuf has declined to play any active role due to health reasons. However, he has agreed to conduct a tour of the south so as to compile a comprehensive report that will help the Al-Sadiq government to prosecute better the present war.

Retired Gen Yusuf is himself known to be a staunch opponent of the war he believes is unwinnable and he is an advocate of dialogue. Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi is still considering how to make the best use of retired Gen Yusuf, who has already criticized the prime minister's stand on the conflict and volunteered to contact the SPLA to help promote genuine dialogue.

KUWAIT

Security Forces Raid Al-Ahsa Sect's Mosque

LD161755 Tehran IRNA in English 1712 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 16, IRNA — Kuwaiti security forces raided 'Sahhaf' [name as received] mosque belonging to Al-Ahsa Muslims, who originally come from Saudi Arabia.

In the raid the mosque was searched and some religious cassettes and Islamic prayer books confiscated.

An official of the mosque's Islamic Propagation Department was briefly arrested but released after questioning.

The library of the mosque was closed down and restrictions on religious ceremonies and Islamic activities were performed [as received]. Al-Ahsa Muslims in Kuwait condemned the act and expressed their hatred for the restrictions ordered by the Kuwaiti Government.

Papers Comment on Latest Gulf Developments

LD170853 Kuwait KUNA in English 0813 GMT 17 Jun 87

["Gulf-Press" — KUNA headline]

[Text] Kuwait, June 17 (KUNA) — By virtue of prudence of its leaders and its long experience, Kuwait is fully aware of the road it pursues and meticulously perceives the implications of attacks against its oil tankers, daily *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm* said.

Editorially commenting Wednesday on latest Gulf developments, the local newspaper warned against "non-familiar" political and military developments that may affect the whole situation in the Gulf.

Al-Ra'y al-'Amm said Iran has been trying to separate the issue of vessel attacks from security-related matters in the Gulf.

Iran sought to search for external alternatives to cover up for losses in the war, thus it hit Kuwaiti tankers, and motivated subversive elements for distabilization, said *Al-Ra'y al-'Amm*.

The paper, in conclusion, stressed Kuwait's ability to independently handle any emergency phenomenon.

Meanwhile, English-language daily *Kuwait Times* categorically rejected any idea over establishment of foreign military bases in the Arabian Gulf Region.

"Any talks of military bases is essentially and inherently militaristic in nature," the paper said, adding that working for peace does not necessarily presume military measures.

The only proper way to go about the Gulf situation is to set the eyes straight on ending the war and replacing it with a proper and comprehensive peace settlement, the daily suggested.

The United Nations is the ideal medium for such purposes, said the paper which contended that U.N. chances to establish peace in the region seem brighter than ever since the beginning of the Iraq-Iran war.

Security Council as well should be given power and authority to enforce any agreed formula for peace, said the paper which urged all concerned powers to "forget all about bases."

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Abdication of Sharjah Ruler Prompts Crisis

Names Brother as Successor

JN171500 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1322 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Al-Shariqah, 17 Jun (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Dr Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, UAE Supreme Council member and Sharjah ruler, has announced his abdication effective today.

In a statement today, his highness said that he had decided to abdicate as ruler of the Sharjah Emirate in favor of his brother, His Highness Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi.

The following is the text of the statement:

1. In view of the requirements of the public interest and the need for being completely free to carry out the responsibilities of rule and in view of the need to explain to the sons of the homeland all matters concerning their present and future — a need dictated by honesty and responsible commitment — I find myself duty-bound to explain certain matters pertaining to the Emirate. They are as follows:

First: (?Arbitrary) decisions led to mistakes in calculations while drawing up a financial policy to meet urgent needs in services and development. This resulted in heavy adversities and the accumulation of debts in the Emirate's budget.

Second: The administrative leaders entrusted with supervising and best preparing the budget failed to do their duty honestly and responsibly. The majority began to care more for their own interests without considering the public interest.

Third: There was no studied scientific plan to invest oil income. Public companies exploited financial hardships facing the government to immerse the Emirate in debt. They did so in order to undermine the government's negotiating position vis-a-vis the companies. In turn, they sought to control the Emirate's basic revenues as long as possible in their own interests and to achieve their monopolistic objective.

I find myself in a difficult position with regard to this situation. I find no logical solutions at present to help ease the financial crisis. Also, my pursuit of higher studies and the time and effort required by this did not leave me enough time to follow up urgent daily responsibilities. Therefore, I have decided to abdicate as ruler of the Sharjah Emirate as of 17 June 1987 in favor of my brother Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Qasimi whom I trust as capable, efficient, and honest enough to be ruler of the Sharjah Emirate and wish him success. It is God who grants success.

Supreme Council Meets

JN180650 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic
0630 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan chaired a meeting of the UAE Supreme Council at the Al-Maqam Palace in Al-'Ayn last night.

Those attending the meeting included Shaykh Saqr ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Ra's al-Khaymah; Shaykh Rashid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Umm al-Qaywayn; Shaykh Humayd ibn Rashid al-Nu'aymi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of 'Ajman; Shaykh Hamad ibn Muhammad al-Sharqi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Al-Fujayrah; and Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid al-Maktum, minister of finance and industry.

Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Humayd al-Qasimi, minister of state for the Supreme Council, made the following statement after the Supreme Council meeting:

The UAE Supreme Council has decided to consider the statements issued yesterday, Wednesday, 17 June 1987, null and void.

He added: The Supreme Council is in session until a necessary decision is issued later.

Sharjah Ruler Returns From UK

JN180710 Dubayy Domestic Service in Arabic
0700 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] His Highness Shaykh Dr Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the UAE Supreme Council and ruler of Sharjah, returned to the UAE from London last night with God's care.

'Crisis' Committee Formed

JN180724 Dubayy Domestic Service in Arabic
0700 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] In today's issue, the Dubayy paper *Al-Bayan* cites Shaykh Faysal ibn Khalid al-Qasimi, chief of the Amiri Court in Sharjah, as saying that a committee has been formed to negotiate with Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi [UAE minister of state for the Supreme Council] to end the crisis. The committee is comprised of His Highness Shaykh Saqr ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Ra's al-Khaymah; His Highness Shaykh Humayd ibn Rashid al-Nu'aymi, ruler of 'Ajman; and His Highness Shaykh Hamdan ibn Rashid al-Maktum, minister of finance and industry.

King Fahd Cables Shaykh Zayid

LD181309 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] A responsible source has told SPA that the custodian of the holy mosques, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, sent a cable last night to his brother, His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al-Nuhayyan, the UAE president. The cable expressed King Fahd's desire to be reassured about the outcome of the developments which took place yesterday between the brothers in Sharjah. The message further stated that the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has followed these events with great interest. The source added: The Kingdom has an ongoing concern about the continuing stability of the UAE. It expresses its full confidence in the wisdom of the brothers and in their farsightedness to deal with the emergency and restore the situation to normal. Furthermore, the Kingdom hopes that maximum efforts are being exerted to safeguard the region's security and stability.

Bahraini Amir Phones Zayid

JN181349 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1326 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Manama, 18 Jun (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, spoke on the telephone today with His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE. His highness the amir wished to be reassured about developments there.

His highness the amir of Bahrain affirmed his country's constant concern about continued stability in the UAE. He said that stability will ensure progress and prosperity for that fraternal state.

His highness expressed confidence in the ability of His Highness Shaykh Zayid and his brother members of the UAE Supreme Council to tackle the current situation. He trusted that they would heighten security and stability as these embody the spirit of the one family.

Kuwaiti Amir Contacts Zayid

LD181113 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, minister of state for cabinet affairs, has told KUNA that his highness the amir last night telephoned his brother, His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan. The two discussed the latest developments in the sisterly UAE. The amir stressed to Shaykh Zayid that our common (?destiny) dictates the need to consolidate development and stability in our region. His highness the amir, may God protect him, affirmed that Kuwait has confidince in UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan and his brothers, the Emirates' rulers. He also asserted has absolute confidence that the brothers in the UAE, with their wisdom, are capable of dealing with any eventuality. His Highness also stressed Kuwait's deep concern for the development, cohesion, and stability of the sisterly UAE. He prayed that Almighty God would grant our region stability and prosperity.

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

President Salih Receives Sudan's Hasan al-Turabi

JN170914 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received brother Dr Hasan al-Turabi, secretary general of Sudan's Islamic National Front Party, at his office last night. Talks during the meeting dealt with the brotherly, historic relations between the Yemeni and Sudanese peoples and ways to promote and develop them to serve the interests of the two fraternal countries and the Arab and Islamic nations.

Dr Hasan al-Turabi expressed profound pleasure at the meeting, as well as his appreciation for our country's stand in support of Arab and Islamic issues. He praised our country's achievements in all development spheres under the glorious 26 September revolution led by brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

USSR Minister Vorontsov Continues Official Talks

Received by Saddam Husayn

JN171303 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] President Saddam Husayn has received Yuliy Vorontsov, the Soviet first deputy foreign minister. During their meeting, they discussed the close relations between the two friendly countries,as well as ways to promote them to benefit joint interests and to bolster areas of bilateral cooperation. They also discussed the efforts being made by international and regional organizations to halt the Iraq-Iran war, as well as Iran's insistence to continue it and its rejection of attempts to stop it.

The president stressed the five principles for halting the war which he announced on 2 August 1986, principles in line with international law and norms that consider the war to be an indivisible whole and that call for its comprehensive settlement.

The Soviet first deputy foreign minister affirmed his country's stand calling for an end to the conflict. He stated that the Soviet leadership's position is identical to that of Iraq in considering the war's continuation to be a threat to the security, stability, and sovereignty of the region's states.

The meeting was attended by Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information and acting foreign minister; the president's secretary; the Foreign Ministry under secretary; and the Soviet ambassador to Baghdad.

Meets With Ramadan

JN171528 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1435 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Jun (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and Iraqi first deputy prime minister, received Yuliy Vorontsov, the Soviet first deputy foreign minister, in Baghdad today.

During their meeting, the two sides discussed bilateral relations and expressed deep satisfaction with the development of these relations in all fields. They affirmed the eagerness of both countries' officials to find new areas for bilateral economic, technical, trade, and scientific cooperation to enhance existing ties.

Taha Yasin Ramadan praised the level of broad bilateral cooperation which reflects the developed relations between the two friendly countries.

The Soviet first deputy foreign minister expressed admiration for Iraq's great progress and his appreciation for Iraq's peaceful efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war and establish regional peace and stability.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Wisam al-Zahawi and the Soviet ambassador in Baghdad.

'Intensive' USSR Mediation To End Gulf War Noted

JN171841 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] The Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Ra'y Al-'Amm* has reported on intensive Soviet mediation to end the Iraq-Iran war. The newspaper cited Soviet diplomats who are members of the Soviet delegation led by Yuliy Vorontsov, the Soviet first deputy foreign minister. It added that the Soviet official had discussed Moscow's peace plan with Iran's rulers during his recent visit to that country.

The Soviet plan calls for stopping the war on oil tankers as a first step, to be followed by Iraqi-Iranian negotiations in Moscow to achieve a comprehensive end to the dispute. The two sides will then ask the United Nations to extend financial assistance to help them to rebuild their economies. They will also ask OPEC to increase their oil quotas to enable the two countries to rebuild their wrecked installations.

Syria, Libya, and Algeria are said to support the Soviet peace plan.

The Soviet diplomatic sources said that the Tehran leaders objected to certain points in the Soviet plan. However, Vorontsov's overall visit to Iran was positive. As a result, Moscow was encouraged to hastily send Vorontsov to Bagdhad.

Communique No 2,711 Details Combat 16-17 Jun

JN171738 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Communique No 2,711 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 17 June 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant Armed Forces have continued their glorious defense of the beloved land of Iraq, inflicting further losses on our nation's enemies with God's help and the determination of men. The following is a roundup of activities for last night and today:

1. The brave knights in the helicopter gunships carried out 28 combat missions. They inflicted death on the rogues and destroyed the enemy's equipment and positions. The knights returned safely to base, God be praised.

2. Six enemy gunboats attempted to approach the loading platform of Al-'Amiq Port. Our valiant naval units and the port force confronted them and forced them to flee.

3. A brave force from one of our formations in the II Army Corps central sector launched a successful raid on enemy positions. It killed or wounded a number of rogues, destroyed four infantry positions, and blew up one ammunition dump. The force returned safely to base.

4. Our formations in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan also attacked enemy units, inflicting human and material losses on the Zionist Khomeyniites in addition to the following:

A. Two rogues killed and others wounded.

B. Six infantry positions destroyed.

C. Five ammunition dumps blown up.

D. Two machinegun emplacements destroyed and their crews killed.

E. A number of enemy positions set ablaze.

5. In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, concentrated fire from various weapons was directed at enemy positions and engineering works, inflicting the following losses:

A. One observation post destroyed.

B. Two infantry positions destroyed.

C. Two shovels [preceding word in English] damaged.

D. A number of ammunition dumps blown up.

E. Nine Kalashnikov rifles, one machinegun, one RPG-7 rocket launcher, and two pistols left by the enemy seized.

6. Our units in the I Army Corps northern sector spotted a number of enemy vehicles and personnel formations. The enemy was attacked with various weapons and suffered losses, in addition to the following:

A. Three infantry positions destroyed.

B. Four vehicles set ablaze.

C. One four-barrel machinegun destroyed

D. One shovel and two bulldozers destroyed.

7. One grader [preceding word in English] destroyed, one shovel damaged, and fires ignited in the enemy's lines on the VII Army Corps front.

8. Through cowardly practices the criminal Iranian rulers are expressing their inability to confront the sons of Iraq on the battlefield. Their forces used long-range artillery to shell residential districts of the city of Abu al-Khasib. The enemy action resulted in martyring a civilian and damaging houses and a number of other buildings. For our martyrs mercy and forgiveness.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 June 1987

Enemy 'Wiped Out' in North

JN171644 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Military spokesman statement dated 17 June]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] An enemy force from the charlatan Khomeyni Guards, with the help of treasonous guides, attempted to attack one of our border mountain peaks in the heroic V Army Corps northern sector and in the valiant Talha Forces sector at 0105 this morning [2105 GMT on 16 June].

Our valiant men confronted the enemy force with various weaponry and with efficient support from our gigantic artillery and brave helicopter gunships. Fighting continued until, with God's help and our soldiers' courage and concern for their homeland, the enemy was expelled in an extremely humiliated state. The bulk of the attacking force was wiped out and transformed into dismembered bodies littering the ravines and slopes. The remaining enemy fled in frustration and defeat, as the situation was settled in favor of our victorious forces. Down with the rascal Khomeyniites. All glory for our beloved Iraq and its victorious Armed Forces. Glory for the heroes of the V Army Corps and Talha Forces — commanders, officers, NCO's, and other ranks. God be praised for His victory.

[Dated] 17 June 1987

Iranian Claims Denied

JN181144 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1110 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jun (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has ridiculed the Iranian regime's lies and claims concerning yesterday's battles in the northern sector of operations. In a statement to INA a short while ago, the military spokesman said that the Iranian media's statements on these battles are absolute lies. We announced the facts of the encounter yesterday, the spokesman asserted. These were that the (Malik Ashtar) Brigade attempted to attack a high-elevation border post in the Mirgah Sur region. We managed to annihilate most of the brigade, and the few survivors fled into Iranian territory leaving behind their weapons and the corpses of their dead. The situation was thus settled in favor of our triumphant forces.

The Iraqi military spokesman concluded his statement by saying that these hollow claims are aimed at concealing the devastating blows that the Iranian forces are sustaining. He explained that the world has grown accustomed to hearing such lies from the Iranian media and pays no attention to them.

Communique No 2,712 Issued

JN181223 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1139 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Communique No 2,712 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 18 June 1987]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] At 0115 today [2115 GMT On 17 June], the scoundrels thrust their forces forward to attack three

of our heroic formations in the Shurahbil sector of operations, in the valiant IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan. A magnificent battle ensued in which our fighters, officers, and soldiers from the infantry, shock troops, armored divisions, and artillery performed as their people and their leader have always known them to perform — courageously, daringly, and as true believers in God and his victory. Hours of the new harvesting of the rotten Khomeyniite forces passed, and when the battle was over it became clear that the enemy of God and our enemy had sustained thousands of dead and wounded. Many of their corpses still litter no-man's-land since the enemy failed to remove them. Moreover, scores of POW's who surrendered themselves to our forces were taken.

Thus, the Khomeyniites have received a new devastating blow at the hands of our triumphant forces. The situation was completely settled in favor of our victorious forces at 1430 this afternoon. Khomeyni and his clique have only reaped another scandal of infamy and disgrace from this adventure. God bless you, proud, faithful men of the valiant IV Army Corps — commanders, officers, and other ranks. God bless you, O brave fighters of the valiant Shurahbil Forces and affiliated forces, commanders, officers, and other ranks. Pride and constant victories will be your lot, O proud Iraqis. Long live your great leader, President Saddam Husayn. Long live our triumphant Armed Forces. Praise be to God for this great victory.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 June 1987

United Nations Told of New Iranian Shelling

JN171849 Baghdad INA in English 1650 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] United Nations, June 17, INA — The U.N. Security Council was informed today on fresh attacks on purely civilian targets in Iraq by the aggressive Iranian regime.

In a letter submitted to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Iraqi ambassador to the U.N. 'Ismat Kittani reported artillery bombardment in recent days of the city of Basra, the village of Kurda Sivan [INA spelling] and the Al-Qurnah District of the Al-Basrah Governorate, which left one martyr and three wounded, as well as causing damage to civilian property and houses.

Government Issues Entry Visas for USSR Delegation

TA181330 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Israel has announced that it has issued entry visas to the Soviet consular delegation scheduled to visit Israel at the beginning of next month. Foreign Ministry Spokesman Ehud Gol said the visas were issued yesterday at the Netherlands Embassy in Moscow, which represents Israeli interests.

At the same time, the spokesman commented it is not yet known in Israel when the delegation will come, how long it will stay here, and with whom it will meet. He added that Israel has not requested reciprocity and recalled remarks by Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres that if Israel requests entry visas for the Soviet Union for a delegation of its own, they will not be refused.

Womens' Delegation Departs For Soviet Union

TA181421 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1400 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] A large delegation of women from Israel, including three Knesset members from the Alignment, MAPAM, and RAKAH, left for the Soviet Union today. Next week a delegation composed of secretaries of the Labor Party, MAPAM, and RAKAH is scheduled to go to the Soviet Union.

Labor Party Secretary Comments

TA180829 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0405 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Interview over the telephone with Labor Party Secretary Knesset Member 'Uzi Bar'am in New York by Yitzhaq Ro'e in the Jerusalem studio — live]

[Text] [Ro'e] On 20 July a delegation including the secretaries of four Israeli parties, Knesset members [MK's], and academics will leave for Moscow. This delegation is headed by Labor Party Secretary Bar'am, whom we contacted in New York to hear about his trip to the USSR. Good morning, 'Uzi Bar'am. What does this trip mean? Is this perhaps one step prior to the resumption of diplomatic relations?

[Bar'am] I have no assessment on whether or not this trip is leading to what you just said. I hope so, of course. This trip will be made by the most senior officials Moscow has seen since perhaps 1967. The fact that they also invited me personally — not only as an MK but also as the Labor Party secretary — also points to the importance they attach to the delegation. However, as was the case with regard to many trips to the USSR, it is difficult to forecast the results. I know what I am going to say there, rather than what they are going to tell me.

[Ro'e] To the best of your knowledge, at what level will the meeting be held? You will not be able to meet with Gorbachev, I assume.

[Bar'am] I do not know; I doubt it. However, I know that when the matter of the delegation was first discussed with me, before I left Israel, I asked for assurances that I will meet with officials at the highest possible level. I am surely not opposed to having the entire delegation meet with such officials, but, as the Labor Party secretary, I asked to meet with CPSU Central Committee and Supreme Soviet figures. I hope or am almost certain this will come about. Thus we, the Labor Party, will be able to express our positions directly.

Future Delegation to USSR Named

TA171034 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] The secretaries of four parties will leave for Moscow in 1 and 1/2 months, along with two Knesset members [MK's] and several academics. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that the Soviets agreed to an Israeli delegation comprising 'Uzi Bar'am of the Labor Party, Me'ir Wilner of HADASH, Ela'zar Granot of MAPAM, and Shulamit Aloni of the Citizens Rights Movement. In addition, MK's Ora Namir and Hayim Ramon of the Labor Party will also leave for Moscow.

A delegation of the Polish Communist Party arrived in Israel last night as the guest of the Israeli Communist Party. One of the delegation members is the chairman of the Polish party's Political Section.

Prime Minister Shamir Pays Visit to Togo

For coverage of Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's visit to Togo, including a banquet speech by Shamir on the reestablishment of diplomatic ties with Togo, see the West Africa section of the 15 June Africa (Sub-Sahara) *Daily Report* and subsequent issues.

Foreign Ministry Condemns Waldheim Vatican Visit

TA181035 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1000 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem this morning condemned the pope's decision to receive Austrian President Kurt Waldheim in an audience at the Vatican. In its statement, the Foreign Ministry spokesman says this decision has surprised the Jewish world and the State of Israel, and raises the question as to the possible motivation behind it.

Government Reportedly Approved Meeting With PLO

TA180441 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] A Shin Bet agent giving secret testimony in the trial of four leftists who met with PLO officials in Romania last November says several Israelis had met with the PLO under government auspices. The agent disclosed that these meetings were held even after the Knesset enacted a law forbidding contacts with terrorist organizations. He testified that the PLO consists of competing political and military factions, and that the political wing has often taken a more moderate stance as a result of these contacts.

The Shin Bet official cited Arye Eli'av and Uri Avneri as Israelis who met with the PLO with government approval.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0400 GMT on 18 June adds that the "Shin Bet agent believes there are PLO activists who are prepared for a peace agreement with Israel on the basis of mutual recognition."]

AL-FAJR Urges More Meetings

TA171552 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 13 Jun 87 p 1

[Editorial: "The Budapest Meeting and the Aspired Peace"]

[Text] The joint statement issued the day before yesterday at the conclusion of the Palestinian-Israeli meeting in Budapest affirmed a number of irrefutable facts that Israel has always tried to conceal or has stubbornly refused to recognize.

The meeting and the statement affirmed an explicit desire by the PLO and Israeli democratic forces to establish a just and comprehensive peace, based on acknowledgment of the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights. They also affirmed once again the irrationality, hollowness, and weakness of the political campaign waged by Israel against the PLO, as well as its efforts on the international scene to depict the PLO as a "terrorist" that continues to shed blood and wants to eliminate Israel. The reality, though, is exactly the opposite. Israel, which chants the slogans of peace, has itself not responded to the Palestinian presence except through war, which has continued for 40 years.

Perhaps all this "legal" and propaganda campaign waged against members of the Israeli peace delegation by means of threats uttered by Knesset members and their demand to impose the harshest penalties on members of the delegation, in addition to the information campaign undertaken by Israel to portray the PLO as an "opportunist" trying to exploit the meeting to achieve propaganda and political gains in the international arena, express to a large extent the political dilemma experienced by Israel. This dilemma is bound to intensify as long as the war mentality governs the Israeli perspective in dealing with the Palestinian people.

The Palestinian-Israeli meeting was held against the background of a strategic viewpoint adopted by the PNC and based on development of relations with democratic Israeli forces that support Palestinian rights. The meeting was not held on the basis of a propaganda or political tactic as claimed by Israel.

The Israeli delegation left the Budapest meeting carrying two convictions: First, the PLO's desire for peace, but not the peace that the Israeli war mentality wants, which is governed by the four no's rather a just peace that guarantees the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights. Second, the Israelis are mistaken if they believe they are able to make peace by the exclusion of or against the Palestinians and their legitimate representative, the PLO. The Israeli "peace" attempts have proved their failure and futility.

While highly valuing the courageous stance of the Israeli leftist delegation that challenged the anti-democratic Israeli laws, we hope these meetings will continue, for the sake of establishing a just peace, which Israel needs at present and in the future more than any other side.

Commentary on PLO Contacts

TA161101 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jun 87 p 13

[Commentary by Dan Margalit: "Sending Out Feelers to the PLO]

[Text] The law banning meetings with the PLO is unnecessary and damaging. However, nobody authorized the communists and their ally, Charlie Biton, to break the law. The man who embraced terrorists and groveled before them cannot hope to receive special treatment.

Biton is no more privileged than the "Gush Emunim" rioters or the "There is a Limit" delinquents. That which is forbidden to Tzvi Qatzover [of "Gush Emunim"] and Meir Kahane is also forbidden to the delegation organized by the communists.

The photographed embrace with Abu 'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] turned into a bear hug. Biton fell into his arms, but the PLO Palestinians did not sign a joint document with the Israeli communists at the Hungary meeting. Biton's delegation announced that the Palestinian state will be established alongside Israel and Abu 'Abbas and his friends reacted favorably. However, they avoided adding their signatures to the statement recognizing the Zionist enemy as an independent entity.

The truth about Yasir 'Arafat's supposedly moderate PLO is completely different. This PLO took exception to the initiative of Hanna Sinyurah, one of its most prominent representatives in the occupied territories, who wanted to "run" in the municipal elections in Jerusalem in order to increase Arab power. However, 'Arafat backed off and did not approve this. It was the PLO which, in its last conference, rejected any recognition of Israel and returned to the slogan of the armed struggle. It was the PLO that not only refused to accept Shim'on Peres' international conference formula — as though it was Yitzhaq Shamir's ally — but also broke every acceptable norm in the international arena until it was pushed out of Jordan and expelled from Egypt.

Charlie Biton, who was invited to Hungary, and Mati Peled, who was left out of the delegation must understand that the PLO's days of trickery are over. The aging wunderkind of international terrorism has made himself loathed by civilization. If he wants to join the peace process under the auspices of an international opening, he must make the decisions in the PNC and give them official publicity; they must include both recognition of Israel's right to exist within the 1967 borders, at least, and a commitment to stop terrorism.

Playing tricks such as the Abu 'Abbas meeting with Charlie Biton and the PLO's worn-out announcement that it accepts all of the UN decisions, including the return of the refugees to the borders of the old Israel, is no substitute for the courageous decision demanded of the national Palestinian movement.

Still, the question remains: What does the PLO want? One assessment has it that both the meetings of PLO officials with Israeli leftists and Sinyurah's initiative (even though it has been denounced by PLO circles in Israel and abroad) are political maneuvers meant to test the strength of Israeli democracy, to uncover its weakness and challenge its laws.

It is more logical to assume that under the pretense of unmasking the "Zionist enemy," moderate PLO elements are willing to accept the existence of the Jewish state alongside Palestinian sovereignty in the occupied territories. Part of the PLO has calculated that it will benefit whether or not the Israelis acquiesce to its limited initiatives. It therefore approves of the meetings which do not bind the PLO and which embarrass the Israeli Government.

This facet of the PLO's activity calls for sophisticated Israeli foresight.

Biton cannot take the law into his own hands, but who can? We must not give the communists a monopoly on illegal contacts with the PLO. However, who has the authority to replace them? The government is bound by its refusal to allow the PLO to join the negotiations. The Likud is committed for eternity, and it is only in the event of certain political developments that the Alignment might change its boycott of 'Arafat. However, the moderate elements in Israel are interested in checking out what is happening in the PLO close up, and not necessarily through the eyes of Charlie Biton or Mati Peled. This not only justifies the strict enforcement of the law against meetings with the PLO, but also the search for moderate elements who will receive the blessing of the Israeli Government for holding non commital clarifications.

This method was used by the Jewish side in the Arab-Israeli conflict from the beginning. David Ben-Gurion agreed to the contacts between Yehuda Lev Magnes and Jerusalem mufti Hajj Amin al-Husayni's men. Yitzhaq Rabin agreed to listen to Mati Peled's report on his contacts with the PLO. Menahem Begin sent Moshe Dayan to speak with King Husayn, despite the fact that he refused to give him even one meter of the West Bank. It is impossible to send a minister or an official envoy to the PLO, but the government has full authority to ask certain Israelis to hold cautious and unemotional contacts with the terrorist organization. It is possible that Shim'on Peres, in his capacity as foreign minister, is authorized to grant such limited authorization on behalf of the government. This idea is unpopular. It might harm the Alignment in the elections, which in any event do not seem to be near at hand. This cannot be an official and ongoing policy. However, in diplomacy there is also room for noncommital feelers, which find their place alongside the government's declared policy and basic guidelines, without undermining them.

AL-QUDS Calls for Mending Egypt-PLO Rift

TA171906 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic
14 Jun 87 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Egypt, the PLO, and the First Step"]

[Text] Butrus Ghali, Egypt's minister of state for foreign affairs, affirmed that Egypt and the PLO are trying to mend the rift that afflicted their relations when Egyptian President Husni Mubarak closed the PLO's offices in Egypt in the wake of the discussion held during the 18th PNC session on the nature of Egyptian-PLO relations.

Despite the official statement about the closure of PLO offices in Egypt, the Egyptian leadership left the doors open for working out relations based on firm foundations with the PLO. Egypt adhered to the principle of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, as well as to the need for the PLO to participate in the proceedings of the proposed international conference as the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people. Egypt did not adopt any step harming the essence of the Arab-Israeli conflict: That is, the necessity of acknowledging the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights. Egypt maintained its position, calling for adding the Palestinian people's right to self-determination to Security Council Resolution 242.

These positions adhered to by Egypt conform to the spirit of the resolutions of the recent PNC session held in Algiers. They include the convocation of the international peace conference with the participation of all parties to the conflict, including the PLO — officially, or through members of or selected by the PLO itself — and the Security Council's permanent members. They also include an adherence to the Palestinian people's right to self-determination at a time when a significant number of Arab states have stopped calling for this right.

Hence, the formalities for mending the rift between Egypt and the PLO are almost complete, and action must be taken to work out relations on the basis of foundations that do not harm the interests of either Egypt or the PLO. We believe that reopening the PLO's offices in Egypt consitutes the main ingredient and will provide the necessary momentum toward the establishment of a firm relationship between Egypt and the PLO.

We are not trying to determine the means for providing the climate to build a strong relationship based on foundations of pan-Arab interests and aspirations. We affirm the need to mend the rift as soon as possible, especially when Egypt is still working tirelessly to advance the peace process by preparing the climate for convening an international peace conference. It is almost the only party among the main parties to the conflict that is continuing to exert sincere efforts to achieve and reinforce the international conference principle.

It has become clear that talk about convocation of the international peace conference requires, above all, the creation of a unified Arab stance whose main parties should be Egypt, Syria, Jordan, and the PLO. Mending the rift between Egypt and the PLO constitutes the first step in creating the required Arab stance. Without this step, the chances of hammering out a unified Arab stance and, consequently, the convocation of an international peace conference, will be almost, if not in effect, impossible.

Rabin Returns From France, Notes Improving Ties

TA171900 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1700 GMT 17 Jun

[Text] Upon his return to Israel from a visit to France, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said relations between the two countries in the security sphere are gradually improving. Speaking to our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal, Rabin said that he believes the production of warfare material containing European-made components should be considered, in view of the difficulties in manufacturing weapons containing U.S. know-how or components.

French Stance on Conference

TA180535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] During his visit to France, Israel's defense minister had talks with President Mitterrand, Prime Minister Chirac, and the ministers of defense and foreign affairs. Rabin told reporter Alan Ben-'Ami that they had exchanged views and explained each other's positions on a number of issues, including the situation in Lebanon. He said there was particular interest from the French on the position of Israel's Government regarding an international peace conference.

[Begin recording] [Rabin] In France they better understand the unique political situation of Israel because, after all, they experience now a president that belongs to one party and a government that belongs to another party, and they realize the difficulties of formulating policy under such circumstances. They take for themselves the position that the Government of Israel has not decided positively about its support to an international peace conference and, as President Mitterrand said, as long as the parties to the conflict don't fully agree to participate, there is no chance that there will be such a conference.

[Ben-'Ami] Do you also get sympathy and understanding from the French for Israel's point of view that if there were to be an international conference, certainly the great powers — those not directly involved in the region — should have no major say, no effort to impose a solution or rules and regulations on the conference?

[Rabin] Yes, I believe that they accept that the international peace conference cannot impose solutions, cannot dictate even procedures to the parties to the conflict. [end recording]

Netherlands Foreign Minister Meets Palestinians

JN170744 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World
1430 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Netherlands Foreign Minister Hans van Den Broek met with Palestinian figures today and stressed to them the need to convene an international peace conference. Our correspondent Yigal Koenig attended the Netherlands foreign minister's meeting with the Palestinian figures at the American Colony Hotel. He is with us in the studio:

[Koenig] The meeting between Netherlands Foreign Minister Hans van Den Broek and the Palestinian figures lasted more than 2 hours. Among those attending the meeting were former Gaza Mayor Rashad al- Shawwa, former acting Hebron Mayor Mustafa 'Abd al-Nabi al-Natshah, Lawyer Fayiz Abu Rahmah, Dr Sa'ib Urayqat, Dr Sari Nusaybah, and others. At the end of the meeting, the Netherlands foreign minister voiced his satisfaction with the opportunity he was given to meet with Palestinian represenatives because, he said, he believes he should listen to the views of these representatives regarding their ideas about the future. The guest minister also affirmed that discussions were very frank, expressing hope that this dialogue will continue in the future.

[Begin Van Den Broek recording in English] I gladly took this opportunity of my visit to Israel to be in contact with representatives of the Palestinian community since when speaking about the problems in the Middle East, we feel that we should also hear what they have to say, what are their ideas about the future. [end recording]

[Koenig] The Netherlands foreign minister indicated that he had affirmed to a number of Palestinian figures the EC stand in general, and the Netherlands stand in particular, which supports the convocation of an international peace conference on the Middle East. This is because negotiations are the only way to achieve a solution, according to the Netherlands foreign minister.

[Begin Van Den Broek recording in English] We've tried to make an assessment what the possibilities are to bring such a conference into place and I explained what the position of the European Community is in this respect, and that we very much try also to bring a certain influence to bear on our part on how to bring this conference in place. [end recording]

[Koenig] Lawyer Fayiz Abu Rahmah also voiced his pleasure at the opportunity he was given to meet with the Netherlands foreign minister. In reply to a question I asked him about the topics discussed with the guest minister, he said:

[Begin recording] There were discussions on the political situation in the Middle East, especially the international conference, the possibility of convening it, and the circumstances surrounding the various parties with regard to this conference. The minister also said the EC has adopted the idea of convening this international conference and that the EC is sparing no effort to convene it. The Palestinian representation was also discussed, and there was unanimity on the need for the PLO to represent the Palestinians in the international conference, as well as on the need to convene such a conference. They said the PNC decided that the PLO will participate in the international conference on an equal footing with all the other delegations. Regarding autonomy, we did not discuss it. [end recording]

Navy Commander Discusses Regional Developments

TA151621 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 14 Jun 87

[Interview with Navy Commander Rear Admiral Avraham Ben-Shoshan by GPO correspondent Robert Rees in Ben-Shoshan's Tel Aviv office; date not given]

[Excerpt][Rees] In light of the Exocet missiles attack on the *USS Stark*, can you elaborate on what the Israel Navy is doing in order to fend off similar future attacks?

[Ben-Shoshan] Let's start with what's happening around us in the Mediterranean. First, we can see that most of our enemies are developing their navies. The main point is that they have new platforms and new weapons systems. New weapons systems are the biggest problem — (they have) both Western and Eastern technology. This is the main point, because we have to compete now with two top-level technologies, and we have small resources to fight this development as best as we can. On the other hand, there are economic strains which we have to consider — we cannot develop every system that we want, so we have to try and utilize our operational experience (optimally). We have found in recent years that most of the (Arab) navies are putting a lot of emphasis on buying new platforms, submarines, helicopters, and (they are) buying a variety of missiles. There's nothing new in that, but we are watching the developments to see how much emphasis they are putting in each area. One has to bear in mind that the submarine is a very offensive weapon and can be used in a variety of ways. So, this is one of the main developments. Actually, if you look around, all of our neighbors are now putting a lot of money into developing their navies, and the reason for this is very clear: Most of them have a long coastline to protect, and most of them are developing systems to protect their shoreline.

The other point I would like to mention is the technological revolution that has occurred in the last ten years which has made weapoms more effective and more accurate. To try and fight against what are called 'smart systems' and 'smart weapons' has become much more difficult. It is much more difficult now to stay alive, to survive, than before. The weapons' mortality is much larger than they were previously. There are a lot of international forces in the Mediterranean which you can look to, or which you must take into consideration.

[Rees] With all the attention paid to the Mediterranean, the press has perhaps overlooked the importance of the Red Sea and Aqaba vis-a-vis the Iran-Iraq War. Have there been changes in the amount or kind of goods coming into Aqaba?

[Ben-Shoshan] I don't have any shipping list of merchandise which says, 'This is going to Jordan, this is going to Iraq.' All I can say is, the ship volume in the past six-to-seven years has been bigger than ever before. The volume was actually bigger at the beginning (of this period) than in the past two years. It's a free international waterway, and they operate there and we operate there. Actually, there is a peaceful coexistence. There have been many attempts by terrorists at sea to change this situation, but so far we have managed to prevent this from happening.

[Rees] There have been no reports in recent weeks about Israel Navy boats turning back ferries carrying terrorists from Cyprus to Lebanon. Would it be correct to assume that, for the time being, the PLO has stopped trying to bring its people into Lebanon via Cyprus?

[Ben-Shoshan] To try and predict anything in Lebanon is very difficult. I cannot say anything about 'the time being' or about the problem. All I can say is that when we told a ship to go back (to Cyprus), we knew with certainty that they were dealing with terrorists and passing them through the area. I cannot comment about the present situation, but nothing in Lebanon is steady and nothing is certain.

[Rees] Have the Shi'ites or Palestinians used the sea to transfer their people from the Beirut and Tripoli area to southern Lebanon?

[Ben-Shoshan] I can say that the sea has been a very attractive route to try and infiltrate a variety of groups (into Lebanon). Most of the terrorist groups are trying to develop their skills to operate at sea. This makes the problem more difficult. Each group thinks that it is easy to penetrate via the sea, and each one is attempting to develop its own ability to do so.

[Rees] Has the amount of ship traffic in the Christian port of Juniyah changed in recent weeks?

[Ben-Shoshan] No, I can't say that anything has changed there. You must understand, we are not carrying out a blockade in Lebanon. All we are doing is watching to see that this main route is used for purposes other than terror.

[Rees] The Irael Navy did make it very clear to one Lebanese Christian faction that it would not allow them to bring in terrorists.

[Ben-Shoshan] I think the message was clear. We don't let anyone help the terrorists. Anyone who deals with terrorists should know what will be the results. I think that many of the countries which are supporting terror are now trying to hide their activities. It's not necessary to be more specific than that. I think (these) countries are well known, and I think the Western world has lately realized that this is a trap which countries should not support in any case, and if any country is supporiting terror in order to get political power, then they should be ready to bear the consequences of these actions.

[Rees] The Israel Navy delivered numerous blows to the PLO's Force 17, and the latter has hardly been heard from in recent months. Was Force 17 reorganized, or has it changed its modus operandi?

[Ben-Shoshan] All I can say is that there are lots of terrorist groups which change their names, from one name to another, to cover up their actions.

[Rees] Does Israel's definition of its own territorial waters differ from that of, say, other Mediterranean countries?

[Ben-Shoshan] We don't operate in the territorial waters of other countries. We just think that terrorism anywhere is a threat which all the democratic countries should fight against. It's like slavery or drugs, and we are fighting drugs as well. There is a big drug flow into and out of Lebanon, and we are fighting that too.

[Rees] Does international maritime law hamper the Israel Navy's fight against terrorism?

[Ben-Shoshan] Under international law you are allowed to operate against terrorism in any way. Under international law, someone who supports terror is no longer protected by international law. No one can come to the international community to demand protection and help when they are breaking one of the main laws, which states that countries should not support terror in any way, in any form.

[Rees] There have been reports that something like 30 ports are active on the Lebanese coastline.

[Ben-Shoshan] In the time that we are talking, there may already be 31. Everyone creates their own port, and it's a big benefit — (it brings in) a lot of money. So, each group and family is trying to build its own ports, and it's easy to build ports. You put down a few tracks and stones and sink a ship, and then you have a harbor. Or, a small port in which you can load and unload lots of 'goodies,' as well as drugs.

[Rees] Should the Israel Navy be engaged in fighting against drugs and contraband? Isn't that actually a task for the Israel Police?

[Ben-Shoshan] You must understand that the connection between drug smugglers and terror is extremely close. Sometimes they use the same means and the same vessels to penetrate. The connection between them is very strong. I don't want to name individual countries, but (these vessels) are conming from all over the Mediterranean. We believe that any group which can be used to smuggle drugs can also be used for terror, and to bring in weapons, ammunition and people. We have evidence of this, so we are trying to do the same task at the same time. A second point is that Israel does not have a coast guard, so we are responsible for both coast guard and Navy tasks. One must not lose the balance between the two issues: the big issue is not day-to-day security, but preparing for war. The samll issue is to make sure that in that time we don't have war, we also don't have hell along the coastline.

[Rees] To what degree is the Syrian Navy utilizing Soviet advisers and strategy?

[Ben-Shoshan] One should realize that the Russians are deeply involved in Syria in developing their forces. There's nothing secret in that. Regarding the expansion (of the Syrian Army), you can assume the same about the Syrian Navy. It's not assuming — it's a fact. They are adding submarines now that they didn't have before, and they got back everyting that they lost in the Yom Kippur War. Regarding joint training maneuvers, it is well known that the Syrians and the Russians are practicing together — there's nothing secret about that, either. The Russians are trying to cover up their activities in the Mediterranean as much as they can. Nevertheless, there are some activities which are very difficult to hide in the Mediterranean, being such a small area. Almost everyone is trying to find out what his neighbor is doing. I think that's a fair comment to describe what's going on.

[Rees] In a lengthy article on the Israel Navy in the latest edition of *Military Technology* you were quoted as saying that the Syrian Navy "has gone to a lot of trouble in trying to ensure that we cannot operate in the event of war." Can you elaborate?

[Ben-Shoshan] As with any other country, our enemies have also analyzed the wars in trying to reach the correct conclusions, saying: 'Okay, we are vulnerable to the sea threat, we have to put a lot of emphasis on protecting our shores. We have to develop our navies' offensive skills.' that's the reason they are putting so much emphasis on developing their shore-to-sea systems. What I was trying to say is that this is a very expensive method, and you have to invest a lot of money into building a good defense on the coastline. This is something which most countries cannot afford, but they can do it. They are also trying to develop their offensive capabilities. We also have to remember, however, that there are limitations — you have to be sure that (your) offensive forces are really capable of doing the job. If you're not secure, you keep them at home.

[Rees] Nevertheless, they have missiles capable of reaching close to 180 km.

[Ben-Shoshan] Oh, yes. One of the things we have learned from history is that missiles are very dangerous if you are not well protected. We lost the (destroyer) *Elat* in such a situation, but this shock also pushed our Navy into understanding that the environment has changed. The fight between missiles is a different and difficult one, and we shall be well prepared for it. This explains why we have developed our forces in the way that we have.

[Rees] In addition to the Baraq missile system and the Dolphin helicopter, does the Israel Navy have other systems for defense against over-the-horizon missiles?

[Ben-Shoshan] We are trying to develop the best systems we can, and we have a variety of systems. We don't talk about them, though, and try to keep them as secret as possible.

[Rees] Can you comment on the Pentagon's deliberations over whether or not to purchase the Baraq?

[Ben-Shoshan] I think the Pentagon should comment on that subject. The Baraq system is not only a system, it's a concept of the point-defense system. We believe that this is a very good system (which) provides ships with very good protection. There exists what I would call a constant ideological fight between two ideas: aerial protection vs. point-defense protection. We believe in point-defense protection. Our ships are small enough to be very well protected, and we have the means to cover a good security zone which will keep the platforms safe.

[Rees] Have there been new developments concerning the Israel Navy's plan to build five Saar-V missile boats and two submarines?

[Ben-Shoshan] We have our program set up, and so far we are proceeding (on) schedule. Like any other program, each time problems arise, we stop to reassess. Every time there is a cut in the budget, we have to think, okay, what are we going to cut, and how? What I can say at this point is that the decision has been made to build them, and we are now looking at the sources: how to do it in the best way, in the cheapest way. We are going to use MFS (Military Foreign Sales) funds, so we have to look at how we can do it in the proper way, within the bounds (placed on the use) of MFS funds.

[Rees] Where, at this point, are the missile boats and submaries to be built, and when are the vessels expected to be operative?

[Ben-Shoshan] The plan is to build (the missile boats) in the United States. We haven't said yet that the submarines will be built in West Germany. I would say (West Germany) is the leading competitor, but there are other countries willing (to build the submarines). We cannot build diesel submarines in the U.S.. As for when they will enter the Israel Navy, we are talking about the beginning of the 1990s.

[Rees] Can you say anything about the Navy's position vis-a-vis the Lavi?

[Ben-Shoshan] Two years ago, I would have had a lot to say. Now that it's a political issue, I don't think I should comment on it at all. The government should comment now, and I think I should keep quiet. [passage omitted]

IDF Spokesman Reports on Intelligence Process

TA171119 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 17 Jun 87 p 2

[Report by Avi Benayahu]

[Text] "The IDF Intelligence Branch is being forced to invest enormous resources in keeping a close watch over the technological advancement of the Arab countries, which is unprecedented in its scope and quality." This is disclosed in an open publication by the IDF spokesman reviewing the world of the IDF intelligence system. Consequently, the Intelligence Branch is helping the IDF prepare itself with countermeasures in the field of weaponry and by preventing a blockage in the information arteries in the field of intelligence-gathering.

"The watch (over the Arab armies) is conducted through a methodical, in-depth, and exhaustive collection of information about the measures being used by the Arab armies and the means that will be thrown into the battle arena in the coming years."

The Arab countries are involved in an accelerated process of procuring the most sophisticated equipment and means from the West and East.

They also have systems whose purpose is to disrupt the intelligence monitoring system," the review states. [punctuation as published] "In competing with these challenges, the Intelligence Branch must take into account the accelerated development of the enemy's intelligence, which is constantly improving its capability and its collection means and stepping up its efforts to stop Israeli Intelligence from acquiring information," the report states.

Sharon Criticizes Government 'Alliance' With USSR

TA171051 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 17 Jun 87 p 1

[ITIM report]

[Text] This afternoon [as published] Minister Ari'el Sharon warned against a dangerous alliance between part of the Israeli Government and the Soviet Union, the Arab countries, the PLO, and several of the European countries, in the wake of the attempt to convene an international conference.

"The enemy on the outside has friends on the inside, and all in perverse ways," the minister said, attacking statements by Alignment leaders Shim'on Peres, Yitzhaq Rabin, Ya'aqov Tzur, and Mordekhay Gur on the peace conference.

Sharon was addressing a rally held near the Qiryat Arba' local council building at the end of an awards ceremony for an essay competition on Ze'ev Jabotinsky and his views.

The attempt to open the gates of the Soviet Union by its agreement to an international conference is grave and has a ring to it which is a cynical echo of the "trucks for Jews" [failed proposal to secure freedom of Hungarian Jews in exchange for trucks during World War II]. Who has the moral right to turn the Jews of the Soviet Union into political hostages instead of demanding their release and conducting a genuine struggle for the granting of exit visas, the minister asked.

He later stressed it should be unambiguously explained that a Palestinian state already exists on more than a third of the territory of Eretz Yisra'el. "Israel with its current borders is the compromise, and it is not that we do not also have a historical right to Transjordan. We have given up more than two-thirds, and that is the final concession," Sharon said.

Comments on Security Policy

TA170817 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Jun 87 p 2

[Report by Joel Greenberg]

[Text] Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon visited Qiryat Arba' yesterday and criticized government security policy in the territories. Official statements should be followed by deeds, he said.

"Security for Jews is the sole responsibility of the government, but it should be clear that responsibility is not only expressed in words, but by eradication of terrorism," Sharon told a cheering crowd at the settlement. He participated in an awards ceremony for essays by pupils on Herut founder Ze'ev Jabotinsky.

Sharon said it was an unfortunate fact that Jewish blood was freely shed on roads throughout the country, adding that it was inconceivable that Jewish traffic should not be secure.

He blasted calls for an international peace conference and said a Palestinian state already exists in Jordan. "Israel in its current borders — not that we don't have historical rights across the Jordan — is the compromise and the concession," he said.

Defense officials are considering opening gates in the fence erected last week in front of the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp, Coordinator of Activities Shmu'el Goren told some 30 camp leaders in a meeting at Al-Duhayshah yesterday. Shopkeepers had complained that the fence, erected to deter stone-throwers, had seriously hurt their businesses by hampering the unloading of merchandise and access by customers driving along the Jerusalem-Hebron highway. Some shopkeepers had considered appealing to the High Court of Justice to get the fence removed.

Goren said the fence gates would be kept open as long as there were no violent incidents at the camp, and would be closed in times of unrest. The gates had been planned before the fence was erected, but were not built because the fence was put up in a hurry.

Goren said other moves to improve living conditions at the camp would be taken if it remained quiet. He did not elaborate, but defence officials are known to be considering paving roads and improving lighting inside the camp.

Goren asserted that quiet was a condition for proper relations between the Israeli authorities and camp residents. The Al-Duhayshah leaders said they also wanted calm, and blamed the recent unrest on a small group of camp residents and persons from outside the camp.

Absorption Minister Discusses Immigration

TA151751 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Absorption Minister Ya'aqov Tzur says the U.S. Administration opposes canceling refugee status for Jews who leave the Soviet Union. He also revealed that Jerusalem is holding contacts with Ethiopia, through other countries, regarding Jewish immigration to Israel. Tzur was speaking at a news conference this afternoon in Jerusalem in which he presented this year's report on immigration absorption. Reporter Shlomo Berger was there:

[Begin recording] [Berger] During the first 4 months of this year, 1,531 Jews left the Soviet Union. Three hundred thirty-two of them came to Israel, only slightly more than 20 percent. Absorption Minister Tzur blames the high drop-out rate on U.S. policy, which grants Soviet emigrants refugee status. In spite of Israeli efforts, says Tzur, the U.S. has opposed any policy change.

[Tzur] They oppose our request to cancel the refugee status, and they think that the question of direct flights is between us and the Russian authorities and not between the United States and Russia.

[Berger] Tzur said direct flights between the Soviet Union and Israel are the main way to solve the drop-out problem. Turning to Ethiopian Jewry, the absorption minister said Israel is doing all it can to reunite Ethiopian immigrants with their families who were left behind. He revealed that Israel is holding contacts with Ethiopia through other countries regarding Jewish emigration.

[Tzur] All the Jews from Ethiopia who have arrived to Israel came here through illegal process. This is the reason why we try with the assistance of other countries, with a very silent activity, to try to change, to bring a change in the policy of the Government of Ethiopia.

[Berger] Tzur would not give details because, he said, it might harm Israel's efforts to reunite the families. This year's report also discussed another problem, that of yerida, or Jews who leave Israel to live in other countries. Despite a government campaign to the contrary, some 17,000 Israelis left the country between April 1986 and April 1987. [end recording]

Notes Status of Ethiopian Jews

TA171847 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Absorption Minister Ya'aqov Tzur says all 1,600 Ethiopian Jews who were in the Sudan when "Operation Moses" was stopped have arrived in Israel. He was talking in the Knesset when motions to the agenda were submitted about the fate of Ethiopian Jews. Tzur added that the government had not ceased for one moment to act in order to bring the whole Ethiopian Jewish community to Israel.

3 'Terrorists' Killed in Lebanon; Rabin Comments

TA180430 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Three terrorists have been killed in a clash with Israeli soldiers in south Lebanon. No Israelis were hurt. The IDF spokesman says it happened yesterday near the village of Al-Qantarah on the edge of the security zone. This is the third incident in which Israeli forces have hit at terrorists operating in the area. Israeli planes yesterday struck a Palestinian terrorist base at the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp beside Sidon, while Israeli helicopters attacked a Hizballah base at the village of Qabrikhah, just beyond the security zone. Israeli strikes on Hizballah targets have been rare, with reports that Israel acquiesced to an American request not to attack bases used by the pro-Iranian Shi'ite extremists. Last night, as Defense Minister Rabin arrived back in Israel from a week-long visit to France, reporter Alan Ben-'Ami asked him if the helicopter attack represented a change in Israeli policy regarding Hizballah targets.

[Begin Rabin recording] At the present there is no such an American request. Israel is a free, independent country, and we decide what to do, when to do, where to do by our own, bearing in mind of course wider aspects of whatever target we decide to attack. [end recording]

SLA Commander Comments on Hizballah Objectives

TA171620 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Excerpts] The Hizballah organization is trying to bring down the security zone, General Antoine Lahd, the commander of the South Lebanese Army [SLA] reiterated today. Our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz reports:

[Begin Horowitz recording] Since the early hours of this morning, senior SLA officers have been holding consultations on measures to curtail the attaacks by Hizballah terrorists against SLA men. This organization has made up its mind to bring down the security zone, officers at SLA Headquarters in Marj 'Uyun say. Gen Antoine Lahd, the SLA commander, argues that Hizballah has resolved to establish a theocracy in Lebanon but says his army will resist such an idea. [passage omitted]

The solution for southern Lebanon is to liberate the area, with Israel's help, from any outside intervention, including that of the Hizballah organization. The Arab world also objects to the ideology of the Iranian regime as it is being enforced in Lebanon by Hizballah, Antoine Lahd says. He noted that Christian soldiers have strengthened their position in Jazzin following a long series of attacks by terrorists in that region. [end recording]

Palestinians Accuse Army of Blocking Unions

TA170826 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Jun 87 p 2

[Report by Joel Greenberg]

[Text] Palestinian trade union leaders in the territories charged yesterday that military authorities were blocking their efforts to organize by arresting activists and barring union activity.

The union leaders appeared at a Jerusalem press conference sponsored by the Israel League for Human and Civil Rights. Speakers included 'Adil Ghanin, head of the General Federation of Labour Unions in the West Bank, leaders of the Palestinian Federation of Labour Unions in the Gaza Strip, and league representatives Dr Yosef Elgazi and Dr Yisra'el Shahaq.

Elgazi said that in the past two weeks the Gaza Strip military government had barred nine union heads in the area from continued membership in the union and from entering union offices, under threat of arrest.

Ghanim said union activists in the West Bank were regularly placed under town arrest, and that union offices were subject to occasional searches and their occupants required to identify themselves. He called for the release of union activist George Hazbun, a communist who was recently placed in administrative detention for three months.

Security sources told *The Jerusalem Post* last night that action had been taken against certain labour unions because they served as cover for organizationala efforts and subversive activity by Fatah.

The sources added that union activity in Gaza was subject to Egyptian law which required approval by the local governing authorities. Activists had been arrested at illegal union meetings, at which inflammatory literature had been found, the sources said.

In recent months two unions in Gaza held elections in defiance of bans by the military government. Troops at the scene tried to block the balloting.

Nisim on Government Spending in Territories

TA160824 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 16 Jun 87 p 2

[Report by Knesset correspondent Asher Wallfish]

[Text] Finance Minister Moshe Nisim said yesterday that he does not know how much money is being invested in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip by governmental bodies, institutions and private individuals.

At a meeting of the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee called to discuss the revenues deriving from the administered areas and the sums invested there, Nisim said: "The statistics are hard to collect. So many factors are involved. It would take months to amass reliable facts and figures."

Hayim Ramon (Alignment) and Yosi Sarid (Citizens Rights Movement) analyzed official statistics from the Government Year Book to show that at least $2 billion have been invested over the past two decades in the areas, of which $400 million were invested in the first two years of the national unity government, 1984-1986.

Ramon said that in 1981 alone, when 30,000 settlers lived in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, more money was invested on their behalf than had been invested for all the Arabs of the areas in the previous decade and a half.

Sarid said that in 1986 the Treasury allocated some $25m. for development to the civil administration of the areas.

In the same year, however, the Treasury netted $170m. from the Arabs in the areas in the form of VAT, customs dues and compulsory deductions from salaries of those employed inside Israel as organized labour.

Although Yig'al Kohen-Orgad (Likud) said that between $200m — $300m. are invested annually in the areas, his faction colleague, Yig'al Kohen, said that this year the state budget is allocating no more than 0.7 per cent of its total to the areas.

$600 Million Figure Quoted

TA170841 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Jun 87 p 3

[Report by Gid'on Alon]

[Excerpt] Yesterday, during the deliberations of the Zionist Executive Committee, Matityahu Drobles, the head of the Zion-

ist Federation Settlement Department, disclosed that the government has invested $600 million in settlements beyond the Green Line. Drobles emphasized that about a third of the investments beyond the Green Line were had the goal of establishing and consolidating community settlements in Judaea and Samaria.

Drobles added that since the 6-Day War, 132 settlements had been established in the West Bank. Some 70,000 people are living in them. He said 25 settlements had been established in the Jordan Rift Valley, 32 settlements on the Golan Heights, and 15 settlements in the Gaza Strip. [passage omitted]

Jordan To Ban Citrus Fruit Imports From Gaza

TA170855 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 17 Jun 87 p 6

[Report by Dani Tzidqoni]

[Text] The citrus fruit growers in the Gaza Strip are fighting the clock to export as much of their citrus crop (Valencia) as possible to Jordan, because from 1 July Jordan will not permit any more of this season's citrus fruit from the Gaza Strip into its territory. Yesterday the growers told the *Davar* correspondent that this year was terrible for them despite the fact good weather had produced good crops (about 150,000 tons), and the branch is on its way to being wiped out.

The chairman of the citrus fruit producers association, Hashim al-Shawwa, said the price the growers had received from Jordan — about $65 per ton — had only covered about 50 percent of the cost of growing the crop.

May Consumer Price Index Rises By 0.6 Percent

TA151525 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Last month the consumer price index rose by 0.6 percent. The Central Bureau of Statistics date indicate that the low May index is due mainly to a 6 percent decrease in the price of fruits and vegetables. There were miniscule price rises in the other sectors, apart from clothing and shoes, which rose by 5.5 percent because of the introduction of summer clothes into the markets. Our economic affairs correspondent, Me'ir Einstein, reports that the economic ministries believe the next cost-of-living increment for salaried workers will be paid only in November.

Organized Tours to USSR Booked for 'Next Few Weeks'

TA151112 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 15 Jun 87 p 3

[Report by Ariela Re'uveni]

[Text] One hundred Israeli tourists will depart for the Soviet Union on organized tours within the next few weeks. The tours were booked through the Israeli-Soviet Friendship Movement. The group includes Israelis of Russian origin who immigrated to Israel by 1967, native Israelis, and Israelis of other origins. Most of them are either members of the Israeli-Soviet Friendship Movement or are affiliated with it. They will spend 21 days in the Soviet Union as guests of the Soviet tourist company "Intourist." They will visit Moscow, Leningrad, Riga, and other locations. The cost of the package is $1,700.

The *Davar* correspondent points out that attempts by various Israeli travel agencies — including those with connections in Eastern bloc countries such as Romania, Yugoslavia, and Hungary — to organize tours for Israelis in the Soviet Union have failed so far.

Corrections to Report on Peres-Husayn Agreement

The following corrections pertain to the item headlined "Paper Notes Clauses From Peres-Husayn Agreement," published in the 16 June edition of the Near East and South Asia *Daily Report*, page L 1:

paragraph one, lines five and six: ...clause whatsoever discussing an international conference only as an opening. Moreover, in... (rewording for clarity)

paragraph two, lines three and four: ...a clause talking about an international conference only as an opening. (rewording for clarity)

King Husayn To Visit U.S., USSR 'This Summer'

JN170922 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic
16 Jun 87 pp 1, 21

[Excerpt] Diplomatic sources in Amman have affirmed that King Husayn will visit Washington soon, as well as Moscow later this summer.

Al-Qabas has also learned from well-informed sources that Jordan's King Husayn will pay official visits to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and other Gulf countries in the next 2 days. During this Gulf tour, King Husayn will carry out a comprehensive assessment of the Arab state of affairs and Iraq-Iran war developments. The sources added that he will also discuss the various aspects of the Palestinian cause.

Jordan seeks to formulate a unified Arab stand on the Middle East issue and the new complications which have emerged in the Iraq-Iran war. Jordan proceeds from the premise of invigorating Arab bilateral contacts to build an Arab strategy. He hopes that this strategy will take into consideration the perils that endanger the Arab system. These dangers seek to dismember the Arab homeland, and create sectarian conflicts and statelets. Jordan believes that Iran on the one hand and Israel on the other constitute a common danger. Both countries' purpose is to fragment the Arab homeland. This is one of the foreign schemes which seek to paralyze the Arab nation's potentialities.

King Husayn's Gulf tour comes within the framework of Jordanian contacts and efforts in the Arab world to hammer out a clear stand on peace efforts in the region and on the convocation of an international conference.

Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri is expected to begin a visit to Denmark on Thursday. This comes immediately after his return from New York where he participated in the meetings of the seven-member Arab committee on the Gulf war. The purpose of this visit is to pursue Jordan's efforts in Europe. King Husayn was scheduled to visit Europe late this month. However, the circumstances surrounding the contacts to attain Arab solidarity, including an Iraqi-Syrian meeting, have caused his visit to be postponed. Jordan has chosen Denmark as the springboard for its efforts in Europe because Denmark will become chairman of the EC group next month. Jordan believes its past contacts, particularly with Belgium, allowed Europe to effectively participate in the task of convening an international conference. Jordan pins great importance on the role Europe may play to convince the United States to adopt a positive, fair stand on the question of holding an international conference. Tahir al-Masri will be accompanied on this visit by the Jordanian ambassador to the EEC countries. [passage omitted]

King Husayn Promotes Army Chief to Field Marshal

JN171927 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Message from King Husayn to Staff Field Marshal Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, on his promotion to the rank of field marshal dated 17 June 1987; place not given]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. From Husayn, the supreme commander of the Arab Army, the Jordanian Armed Forces, to His Excellency Staff Field Marshal Al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

I would like to send you greetings of love, confidence, pride, and appreciation. We would like to take the opportunity these days — as we celebrate Arab Army day, the army which has inherited the legacy of the Great Arab Revolt and has been upholding its banners and protecting its message, the homeland's shield and the nation's hope — to congratulate you on what we have decided to confer upon you today: promotion to the rank of field marshal. You have earned this promotion because of your allegiance and devotion throughout the past years to serving the Arab Army, the Jordanian Armed Forces. This promotion is rightly yours also because you have honored the message and the banner we have been promoting and defending with the utmost strength and resoluteness. In defending and promoting this message, which God keeps within us, we follow in the footsteps of our forefathers and ancestors. The Arabs will remain Arabs forever.

It would also please us to see the field air defense units, which received their banners today, bear the name of the Royal Field Air Defense Units starting now. Their competence and good performance have earned them this name. May God preserve and protect the Arab Army which follows the instructions of the prophet Muhammad. May God also protect our constructive march in beloved Jordan for our nation's glory and pride and the well-being of its future generations. God is our Lord and the best source of support.

[Signed] Your comrade-in-arms and your supreme commander, Husayn ibn Talal, Amman, 17 June 1987

AL-DUSTUR: Sinyurah Election Bid 'Unacceptable'

JN111140 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 10 Jun 87 p 7

[Article by 'Arafat Hijazi: "Jerusalem Municipality Elections and the Suspect Participation"]

[Text] The surprise call of Hanna Sinyurah, editor in chief of the Jerusalem *Al-Fajr* newspaper, for participation in the Jerusalem municipal elections scheduled to be held in 1988 demands serious consideration and study. Subsequently, a national decision should be made by the Jordanian Government and the PLO, on the one hand, and by the Arab League states on the other. What leads us to give Sinyurah's call this amount of serious attention is the fact that Sinyurah is regarded to be a member of the nationalist grouping in the occupied territories. Another reason is that it has been said on various occasions that he would be

nominated to represent the Palestinian side in the talks which were expected to be held with the United States.

Thus, Sinyurah has assumed a nationalist character in the occupied territories. He has acquired the status of representing the Palestinian people in talks at international levels. Consequently, Sinyurah's moves have become recognized and give the impression that they are being conducted within a calculated national scheme. Sinyurah's call for participating in the Jerusalem municipal elections under Israeli laws and recognition of Jerusalem as an open city is unacceptable to any Palestinian or Arab. This is especially true since all Arab League, summit, and PNC resolutions refuse to reqlinquish the legitimate Arab and Islamic rights in the holy city and the legitimate Arab sovereignty over every inch of Jerusalem and the rest of the occupied Arab territories.

We do not wish to refer to Israel's decision on Arab Jerusalem but we must refresh the memory. We wish to note the overall statements by Israeli officials with regard to the Zionist stand on the holy city. Former Israeli President (Zalman Shazar) stated the official Israeli stand following the declaration annexing Arab Jerusalem to occupied Jerusalem in the wake of the June 1967 aggression. He said: The refugee problem should not be resolved at the expense of Israel's Jewish character — a character which necessitates that the city of Jerusalem in its entirety remains the capital of Israel. As for Teddy Kollek, mayor of occupied Jerusalem, he affirmed in an article published in *Ma'ariv* on 30 March 1971 that the world ought to get accustomed to the fact that Jerusalem will remain united. Teddy Kollek, who supported Sinyurah's call for participating in the elections, felt that this new call will fulfill a dream for the Zionist mayor of Jerusalem, who drafted a plan in 1974 which he called the greater Jerusalem plan and in which he assigned the administration of this municipality to 51 members, 13 Arabs and 38 Israelis. The eighth section of this plan actually states the following: A special law shall be drafted and it shall be called the Jerusalem Law and be part of the principal law of the State of Israel. This law shall specify Jerusalem's special status as the capital of the State of Israel and all the aforementioned organizations shall become legal. Here, we must stop and consider this transformation in the Israeli scheme which seeks the participation of Arab members in the Jerusalem municipality whereas in the past there was strong opposition to any Arab participation in the affairs of Jerusalem.

When Shim'on Peres became minister of immigration and absorption in 1970, he drew up a plan called the principal plan. This plan stipulates the establishment of a real Jewish presence in Arab Jerusalem. This would be accomplished by demolishing a large section of the old city to establish a major business center and a main road through the city. The demolition includes entire Arab quarters, especially those surrounding the Al-Aqsa Mosque. The Israeli authorities wanted to involve the world in this plan and invited world city planners. The city planners actually met in Jerusalem and included renowned international architects. Their meeting was called the Jerusalem World Consultative Council.

Following this meeting, which was held on 19 December 1970, Buckminster Fuller, a genius in city planning, said this project had nothing to do with the development of Jerusalem. He stated that its main aim was to obtain international approval for removing Islamic and Christian landmarks in Jerusalem. He further stated that this project was against the interests of Arabs and Muslims because Jerusalem is not an Israeli city. This was a painful shock to the Israeli Government from the world's highest consultative commission for planning affairs since the Israeli project was an encroachment on Arab and Islamic rights. Thus, some Arabs and Muslims had to approve of this project. The Teddy Kollek project came 2 years later. It proposed that Arab members join the Jerusalem Municipal Council so that through them he could legally remove the old Arab quarters as well as the Islamic and Christian holy places.

But all Arab citizens, headed by [dismissed] Jerusalem Mayor Rawhi al-Khatib, rejected any participation in the running of Jerusalem affairs under Israeli laws. All of these laws aim to serve expansion and eliminate the Arabism of Jerusalem. Those who keep track of Israeli schemes will recall that the Israeli Ministry of Immigration and Absorption met last month. They decided to revive the Jerusalem World Consultaive Council which includes the world's most renowned architects. They will be invited to meet at the end of this year to study the new Israeli reality in the city of Jerusalem. They will also be asked to approve the new plans, all of which aim to keep Jerusalem united after surrounding it with a chain of military and civilian settlements.

At this point, we return to Sinyurah's call for participating in the administration of the Jerusalem municipality under Israeli laws and the threat of this call to Arab and Islamic rights and the Palestinian people's national rights. First, this participation will consolidate the misleading Zionist schemes which try to make the world believe that Israel is a democratic state in which the Arabs exercise their national rights.

Second, the Israeli laws, which give the Palestinian the right to participate in the municipal elections since he is a taxpayer, prohibit the Palestinian from participating in the Knesset elections. This is an admission that the Arabs in the occupied territories are second class citizens and do not have national rights.

Third, the laws and regulations of the Jerusalem municipality according to which the Arabs will participate in the elections leave no doubt that Jerusalem is united and is the capital of Israel and that every Arab in it is subject to the Israeli authority. Thus, participating in the elections on this basis means relinquishing and conceding every Arab right in it. Fourth, Sinyurah undoubtedly realizes that the Jerusalem Municipal Council approved the erection of a shack next to the Dome and Al-Aqsa Mosque to act as a synagogue in which Jews would pray; that is, in the Al-Aqsa courtyard. The participation of Arab members in the Jerusalem Municipal Council will not stop this decision but will legitimize its continuance. We realize that this will not stop until the Al-Aqsa Mosque is occupied and demolished and Solomon's Temple is erected on its ruins.

Hanna Sinyurah may have political motives and objectives which he thought could give the Arabs a right to administer their affairs. However, Sinyurah and those who support him should realize that the Israelis would not have agreed to this partnership

and participation if their plan had not included the exploitation of this Arab participation to reinforce the legitimacy of the new Zionist facts and realities. These were rejected by the world's most renowned architects because they oppose the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and the national, pan-Arab, and civil rights of Muslims and Arabs.

PLO Pursuing 'Illusion' With Israeli Leftists

JN150936 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 15 Jun 87 p 30

["Spotlight" column by the political editor: "Budapest, Bucharest, and Hunting an Illusion"]

[Text] Despite our respect for every regional peculiarity in the Arab homeland, for every independent decision, and for the 21 sole, legitimate representatives, the Budapest meeting, and the Bucharest meeting 7 months earlier, present our brothers with the following questions:

— Does the PLO really believe that its meetings with the Israeli Left will have an impact on Israeli public opinion?

— Does the PLO believe that reaching Israeli public opinion will allow it to sit with Yitzhaq Shamir and Shim'on Peres?

— Does the PLO believe that sitting with Shamir and Peres will secure a Palestinian state on a part of Palestine?

If we suppose — and the supposition is incorrect — that all this really takes place, why are we still furious at Anwar al-Sadat and later at Husni Mubarak and Camp David? Did they not sit with Menachem Begin and Moshe Dayan, negotiate, and obtain all Sinai without the Israeli Left and without awaiting miracles?

If the Palestinian demand is to sit at the negotiating table and the Egyptian demand was to sit at the negotiating table, why then did we consider the Egyptian demand treason as long as the regional solution meets what is required? Was Al-Sadat not the sole, legitimate representative of the Egyptian people?

Another question: If there is no alternative to negotiations for solving the Palestinian question, why must the alternative imposed on Lebanon, for example, be fighting and the impiementation of the Cairo agreement? What if Syria solved its problem regionally through negotiations? What if Jordan solved its problem regionally through negotiations? What will happen then and what opportunities for a solution will be left for the PLO and the Israeli Left?

Let our brothers in the PLO and our brothers in Budapest and Bucharest allow us to say that the Israeli Left is the party which has an interest in sitting at the negotiating table and not vice versa. It is wagering on the Palestinian voters in the forthcoming Knesset elections.

Let the PLO negotiators in Budapest and Bucharest allow us to say that there is an alternative to their negotiations even with the Israeli right wing. The alternative is Palestine, pan-Arabism, and the Arabs. Palestine is either the inheritance of Israel or the inheritance of the Palestinians and the Arabs.

The exhaustion experienced by the Palestinian liberation movement and the disgusting state of Arab affairs do not justify searching for an illusion called a political or peaceful solution, negotiations, or an international conference. In this regard, Mauritania is more capable of dealing with this illusion than the PLO.

The Arabs have given and are still giving the PLO all care and support because it presented the real alternative in the Arab struggle. If the PLO joins the line looking for peace it will be last in the line. This is because the Zionists will negotiate with the Comoros and make all sorts of concessions, but they will not negotiate with the Palestinians who want a Palestinian homeland, even if this homeland is outside the land of Palestine. This is because the word Palestinian is completely absent from the Zionist dictionary.

Transport Company Minutes Signed With Iraq

JN171739 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Amman — Jordan and Iraq today signed the minutes of the general meeting of the Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company. The minutes were signed by Jordanian Transportation Minister Ahmad Dakhqan and Iraqi Transport and Communications Minister Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi. The minutes approve the company's final budget and the distribution of last year's profits equally between the two countries. The profits are estimated to be approximately $3 million. The minutes also approve the company's revenues and production during the first third of this year, its efforts to apply the work program during the same period, and its future plans and ways to increase its effectiveness in the interests of the two fraternal countries.

Beirut Gunmen Kidnap U.S. Journalist Glass

NC181447 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Excerpt] New names were added to the list of kidnapped persons in Lebanon today. They are American journalist and author, Charlie Glass; 'Ali 'Adil 'Usayran, son of Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran; and his aide, a former gendarmerie named Sulayman.

Here are the details of the abduction that took place at noon yesterday: In a telephone contact with Minister 'Usayran's home, our correspondent has learned that Glass, a journalist working for ABC news and currently preparing a book on Lebanon, spent the night of Tuesday to Wednesday in the home of 'Ali 'Adil 'Usayran in Al-Rumaylah. He was preparing for a meeting with a number of spiritual and political leaders. He and 'Ali 'Usayran departed yesterday in a white Volvo automobile, accompanied by driver Sulayman. Upon arriving at the Al-'Awza'i Road, they were intercepted by a BMW, a Mercedes, and another car of unspecified type carrying gunmen. The gumen ordered the American journalist out of his car and put him inside the trunk of one of the three vehicles. 'Ali 'Usayran objected to no avail, and subsequently asked to accompany the abducted American.

Eyewitnessess have stated that the four cars took the road leading to the southern suburb [of Beirut].

Contacts were immediately made to secure the release of the kidnaped men. Minister 'Usayran contacted scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, who promised him well [wa'abahu khayran].

Nobody has claimed responsibility for the abduction thus far. [passage omitted]

Defense Minister Contacts Khaddam

NC181514 Paris AFP in English 1500 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Excerpts] Beirut, June 18 (AFP) — U.S. journalist Charlie Glass and the son of Lebanon's Shi'ite defense minister were kidnapped in Beirut on Wednesday, a member of the minister's family told *Agence France-Presse* Thursday. [passage omitted]

The defense minister immediately contacted Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, and the head of Syrian military observers in Lebanon, Colonel 'Ali Hammud.

He also saw Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, spiritual leader of the pro-Iranian Hizballah Party, as well as the Shi'ite mufti, Shaykh 'Abd al-Amir Qabalan, a member of the Shi'ite Amal Movement.

Mr. Glass, married and father of three children living in London, was born in California on January 23, 1951. He had worked for a long time with the ABC television network and was in Lebanon to write a book on the region.

He spent Tuesday night at Mr. 'Usayran's home at Al-Rumaylah, 37 km (23 miles) south of Beirut.

This was the first kidnapping of a foreigner in Beirut since Syrian troops entered the capital on February 22, 1987.

Since 1984, 24 foreigners, including nine Americans, have been kidnapped in Lebanon.

VOL Reveals Group, Location

NC181643 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] In the first incident of its kind since the Syrian forces' entry into West Beirut on 22 February, U.S. journalist and writer Charlie Glass joined the list of kidnapped foreigners in Beirut, in addition to 'Ali 'Usayran, son of Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran, and his bodyguard, former policeman Sulayman Sulayman.

What draws one's attention is that the news about the kidnapping was only revealed 24 hours after the incident occurred in the Al-'Awza'i area [in West Beirut]. No group has so far claimed responsibility for the operation.

According to information received by Voice of Lebanon, there were eight kidnappers driving in three automobiles. They belong to the group led by Khomeyni supporter 'Imad Mighanniyah. The three kidnapped persons were moved to the Al-Khalil building in the B'ir al-'Abid area [in the southern suburb of Beirut].

Shi'ite Council Denounces Act

NC181823 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 Gmt 18 Jun 87

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil telephoned Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran this evening and discussed the available information about the kidnapping of his son and a U.S. journalist. Earlier, 'Usayran received a telephone call from Information Minister Joseph Skaf for the same purpose. The Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council has denounced the kidnapping of 'Adil 'Usayran's son and his guest and called for their immediate release.

FRG Embassy Calls on Germans to Leave Muslim Area

LD171518 Hamburg DPA in German 1410 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Beirut (DPA) — The Federal Republic's Embassy in Beiruit today called on all Germans still living in the Lebanese capital to leave the Muslim part of the city. Embassy circles fear more Germans might be kidnapped in light of the Federal Government decision on the Hamadi case to be announced next Wednesday. [passage omitted]

Paper Notes 'Secret' Al-Jumayyil Visit to Algeria

NC171209 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] The Abu Dhabi-based newspaper *Al-Ittihad* has reported that President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil recently made a secret 24-hour visit to Algeira, during which he discussed the implica-

tions of Prime Minister Karami's assassination with Algeiran President Chadli Bendjedid.

The paper cites sources close to B'abda Palace as saying that President al-Jumayyil asked the Algerian president to intercede with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad so that the incident would not affect future Lebanese-Syrian relations.

Chamber of Deputies Speaker Resumes Activities

NC180822 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0800 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni resumed his activities at the Mansur Palace [parliament building] this morning. He met with deputy speaker Dr Albert Mukhaybar and other deputies at 1015 to talk about the conditions currently prevailing in the country.

Junblatt, Birri Reportedly Reconcile in Syria

JN172100 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
2000 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] A reconciliation took place between Walid Junblatt and Nabih Birri in Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's office this evening. As a result, a major step was taken to form what is called the Lebanese Unification and Liberation Front [Jabat al-Tawhid wa al-Tahrir fi Lubnan]. The meeting of the two Lebanese leaders came after several months of political, informational, and military dispute. Marwan Hamadah said that the two sides had agreed to overlook all marginal differences in the national arena, to announce unified and joint principles, and to speed up steps with other Lebanese national parties and figures to establish the Lebanese Unification and Liberation Front and confront the serious phase Lebanon is experiencing after the martyrdom of Prime Minister Rashid Karami.

Hamadah then read the text of the joint statement issued by the Amal Movement and the PSP. It says:

The two sides announce: First, the need to develop and strengthen the national factor in face of divisionist plans and to view the toppling of the sectarian regime as the only framework to achieve salvation.

Second, the need to unify national areas by overlooking sectarian barriers so that Lebanon can become a unified Arab country.

Third, the need to support and escalate resistance in the south and to mobilize all energies within the framework of a joint operations room.

Fourth, the need to view Lebanon's Arabism — identity and policy — as opposed to sectiarianism in Lebanon. This can be achieved by establishing distinguished relations with Syria.

Fifth, the need to restore cohesion between the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, to consider the Damascus agreement signed in June 1985 the framework regulating Lebanese-Palestinian relations instead of the Cairo agreement, to reject attempts to adhere to the Cairo agreement, and to consider Palestinian withdrawal east of Sidon as a necessary step to restore the required cohesion.

Sixth, the need to confront the economic disaster by opposing the hostile [al-mudarabah] policy adopted by the sectarian regime.

Seventh, the need to speed up the formation of the Lebanese Unification and Liberation Front and to work out the new Front's charter within 1 week.

Responding to a question, Hamadah said: The Lebanese Unification and Liberation Front will include a broad grouping of Lebanese national parties, forces, figures, and movements.

Junblatt Reportedly Escapes Assassination 13 Jun

NC171715 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Citing the Abu Dhabi *Al-Ittihad* newspaper, *Reuter* says that Minister Walid Junblatt escaped an assassination attempt at Al-Mukhtarah Palace last Saturday [13 June]. It notes that a supporter of Abu Haytham approached Minister Junblatt to give him a booby-trapped pen as a gift from Abu Haytham. Junblatt asked the manto open the present for him, at which time the pen exploded in the man's hands. The man, identified as Jamal 'Ammar, was taken to the hospital where his hands were amputated.

It is worth noting that Junblatt had handed over three members of his party, including Abu Haytham, the security official in West Beirut, to the Syrian authorities last weekend. The three are accused of planting explosives in West Beirut.

Report Says Bomb Detonated By 'Remote Control'

NC171355 Paris AFP in English 1340 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Beirut, June 17 (AFP) — A Japanese-made bomb detonated by remote control from the ground killed Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami as his helicopter flew over a Christian-dominated area last June 1, the Beirut daily *Al-Safir* reported Wednesday.

The paper, which is close to Syria's Moslem and left-wing allies in Lebanon, said it was quoting the main conclusions of a military panel's report on the incident.

It said the report apportioned no responsibility for the killing, but said it was understandable that measures to protect the prime minister were inadequate in view of the "paralysis and anarchy of state institutions in general and the Armed Forces in particular."

The report said the bomb, made by a Japanese firm named as Yuasa, had been on board the helicopter when it took off from the Adma air base in a Christian area north of Beirut, but did not say whether it had been planted there, *Al-Safir* said.

The helicopter also landed at Zgharta and Tripoli in north Lebanon to take on its passengers before heading back towards Beirut.

The report quoted statements from all the personnel on the Adma base, the paper added.

The military panel submitted its four-page report on Monday to the military council of senior officers drawn from the six religious communities represented in the Armed Forces.

The council is to pass the report on to an investigating judge, Munif 'Uwaydat, but he has told the press he has not yet received it.

Ja'ja' Urges Expulsion of Syrian, Foreign Armies

NC180700 (Clandestine) Radio free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Lebanese Forces commander Dr Samir Ja'ja' has called for the formation of a government of independence [hukumat istiqlal] to liberate the land from occupation and to help the Lebanese people stand up under the political, economic, and military pressures being applied. Dr Ja'ja' lashed out at those who claim to be working for Lebanon's unity at a time when they spend most of their hours in Damascus. He called for the expulsion of the Syrian, as well as all other foreign armies from Lebanon, saying that herein lies the sole key for unity. Dr Ja'ja' said the following in this regard:

[Begin recording] There is no way Lebanon can be united as long as there is a foreign force on its soil. If those who talk about unity and division are serious, then it is encumbent upon them to expel the Syrian and all foreign armies from Lebanon. [applause] Only then will we be able to attain our objective of unity. We should not stay in Syria; we can never attain our objective there. Some aspire to visit Syria, so they go and spend their days and nights there. When they return, they talk about unity and division. This is purely idle talk and political extortion. This is incompatible with reality.

I would like to ask all the political figures, beginning with the officials who call themselves legitimate officials and ending with the youngest citizen in this society, to form a government of independence. We want this government to look after the people's well-being and the state's economy so that the citizens will continue to stand fast and not submit to Syrian pressures. We want a government of independence so that all the Lebanese, along with the Lebanese Army and Lebanese Forces, will collectively confront the occupation and Syrian forces. We want a government of independence to wage the battle of independence. [end recording]

Dr Ja'ja' made these remarks during a dinner banquet last night hosted by the Al-Biqa' youth grouping in honor of the Executive Committee of the Chrsitian Solidarity Movement.

Growing Ties Between Fatah, Fundamentalists Noted

NC171659 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Informed political sources in West Beirut expect the Fatah Movement and fundamentalist Muslim groups to further strengthen their coordination and cooperation in various fields. This anticipation is based upon the willingness shown by Iranian Revolutionary Guards and Hizballah to offer every type of assistance to the Fatah Movement in Lebanon .

According to these sources, it has been learned that senior Fatah officials, including 'Isam al-Lawh, Fatah official in Beirut, and 'Abd al-Mu'ti [not further identified], met with Shaykh Hasan Nasrallah recently and asked him to mediate with the Iranian Revolutionary Guards to establish practical coordination in view of a likely renewal of fighting with the Amal Movement. The same sources note that a group of Fatah fighters are training with Iranian Revolutionary Guards in the ('Ajamiyeh) area in Iran.

According to these same sources, the so-called Lebanese Consultative Council, comprised of Hizballah officials and Iranian representatives, has decided to issue a ruling that makes it incumbent upon Shi'ites in general, and Hizballah fighters in particular, to confront any attempt by the Amal Movement and the Syrian Army to control the southern suburb [of Beirut] or to advance in the direction of Sidon. The sources add that, although Hizballah spiritual guide Shaykh Muhammad Husayn already has issued the ruling, he has requested it be publicized only if the Syrian troops make preparations to enter the southern suburb or if Amal renews its war against the Palestinian camps.

Madrid Paper Interviews SLA's Antoine Lahd

PM141815 Madrid DIARIO 16 in Spanish 1 Jun 87 p 16

[Juan Carlos Gamucio dispatch: "We Are Not Israel's Border Guards"]

[Text] Marj 'Uyun (southern Lebanon) — There is something ironic about the legend on the poster which stands out in General Antoine Lahd's austere office at the South Lebanon Army (SLA) base. "What Counts Is the Man," it proclaims in large Hebrew characters over the sky and dust clouds of an epic scene of the Israeli military machine in action.

In a sense, which the Israeli artist certainly never intended, Gen Lahd's militiamen are indeed "counting" more than ever.

Alarmed by the series of setbacks the SLA has suffered at the hands of Muslim forces, the Israeli Government has come to the rescue of Lahd's downcast militia with the same diligence with which Washington supports and finances the Nicaraguan contras.

Since a couple of months ago, the SLA militiamen have undoubtedly been the best paid irregulars in Lebanon. The pay offered by the general daily attracts men of almost all sects, united by the disheartening economic situation.

Today an SLA militiaman earns $100 [as published] — more than twice the current minimum wage in this country, whose economy, after 12 years of civil war, drives everybody to turn to any means of subsistence.

Although the SLA's real degree of military recovery remains to be seen in the valleys of southern Lebanon, Gen Lahd — an astute and open man who does not conceal the satisfaction afforded him by the new injection of Israeli money — views the future with optimism.

In Lahd's opinion, the close relationship which exists between the SLA and Israel is not an alliance dictated by money or a matter of subservience to the powerful neighbor. It is a transaction based on convergent interests and — from his own viewpoint — a nationalist duty, in the view of Lebanon's Maronite Christians.

"We are not Israel's border guards, nor does Israel view the situation in that light," Lahd said, with an emphasis scarcely perceptible in the intensity of his gaze and the movements of his well-manicured but strong hands.

The retired 58-year-old military man deems himself a pragmatist when he asserts "Israel is interested in security to the north of its borders. What we are interested in is having peace and security in order to prevent this area from falling under foreign forces' control."

When Lahd speaks of foreign influences he is referring to Iran, Syria, and Yasir 'Arafat's PLO. Israel is a reality with which Lahd must live in harmony.

The statistics show that it is Lahd's forces that have suffered most in the guerrilla campaign against the Israeli occupation of the south. Lahd himself admits that about 100 of his men have been killed in combat over the last 2 years. To date, about 300 have been wounded and 8 militiamen are missing. Israel's casualties during that period, Lahd said, number between 15 and 20 — still a traumatic number for a country obsessed by the human cost of the military campaigns it undertakes.

It is precisely these figures which have led some Israeli politicians to describe the SLA as little less than the main source of cannon fodder for Israel's military ventures in Lebanon. Others, in public statements in bad taste which infuriated Lahd, have described his militia as the "sandbag" of the Israeli Army's positions.

Lahd, unperturbed, prefers to look on the bright side, and in that endeavor he acquits his disparagers in the country that sustains him. "As in any democracy, people (in Israel) are free to express opinions, but the people who call us a sandbag do not understand the true scale of the problem." "The SLA," he said, "is not only safeguarding the security of Israel and Lebanon; it is setting the path toward the normalization of the two countries' future relations." "The Israeli Government," he added, "is aware of that mission, otherwise it would not be spending money on the SLA."

In fact, it is difficult to believe that Lahd's militia could survive without Israel's support. Lahd's men even wear Israeli Army uniforms. Their artillery is composed of obsolete but effective weapons Israel captured from Arab armies in the course of the Middle East conflict.

However, it is possible that the general will receive a more adequate arsenal in light of the intensification of the guerrilla campaign by Islamic groups and the PLO's strengthening in southern Lebanon. It is also possible Lahd will find himself in the firing line if the Palestinians decide to extend their area of influence in the hills to the east of Sidon.

Lahd insists that any military venture will be the result of an appraisal from the Lebanese viewpoint and not a dictate by Israel, but the independence the general professes is something as debatable as his real power to make his own decisions. His patriotic zeal is as visible as the Israeli sentry guarding the entrance to the SLA headquarters and the number of unmarked cars carrying agents of Shin Bet — the Israeli secret service — along the run-down and dangerous roads of the south.

Gen Lahd Addresses SLA Training School Graduates

JN120950 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1000 GMT 11 Jun 87

[Speech by Staff Major General Antoine Lahd, commander of the South Lebanese Army (SLA) during the graduation of a new class of soldiers from an SLA training school on 11 June 1987; place not given -- recorded]

[Text] Soldiers: After almost 9 weeks of intensive training, you deserve the title of private in the SLA. I would like you to know that not everyone who carries a rifle deserves the title of private. Furthermore, in addition to learning the art of fighting, the soldier must have many other characteristics. The first of these characteristics is discipline. There can be no effective military force without discipline. Discipline means carrying out orders without hesitation or grumbling. The second characteristic is sacrifice. The soldier makes sacrifices even to the point of offering his own life. No material thing can equal the greatness of sacrifice and martyrdom. The value of martyrdom and sacrifice is measured by the fateful tasks assigned to you and to other SLA personnel.

Of course, you are supposed to have been trained in combat techniques. Combat techniques require many things. The first requirement is maintaining all the weapons and ammunition we are going to use in our fighting, beginning with the rifle, the gun, the ammunition, and everything. If your weapons are not ready for use, if your vehicles are malfunctioning at a time when they are needed, if the ammunition is not ready for use, and even if your clothes, whether they be camouflage clothes or clothes protecting you from grenade fragments, are not ready for use, we will pay a very dear price indeed. We hope to see you apply all you have learned during the training course. Once you leave the training institute you should not forget all you have learned.

The enemy is like a thief who appears when least expected. You are expected to be alert day and night. The sentry should be responsible for safeguarding and protecting his sleeping comrades. If he sleeps or fails to perform his duties properly, he subjects his own life and that of his comrades to danger. If you

put into practice what you have learned here, rest assured and be certain that no force can overcome you. Today, you can consider the SLA the strongest force on Lebanese territory. I mean the strongest organized force. You are expected to put into practice all you have learned and this is a requirement.

You also must have faith in our efforts and mission. The SLA's mission is well-known to everyone. It is a security mission allowing SLA men to protect the areas in which they live. This mission is important to the SLA men in their capacity as Lebanese regardless of denomination. This mission allows us to coexist in peace and order. We are living in peace here. Peace and order are also found within the SLA while you find coexistence in the remainder of Lebanon is just a slogan. Besides, this part of Lebanon should be an example for the future Lebanon.

We are not detached or isolated from Lebanon. This part is an integral part of Lebanon. You are expected to be the yeast for the people and the remaining Lebanese territories so you can help restore the country to a situation making it better than what it was and not to the status which prevailed in the past.

I would like you to know another thing. Our relations with our Israeli friends are based on common interests. We have a common interest in preserving security: They need security on both sides of the border and we too need security on both sides of the border. We also have common interests regarding establishing peace. They are interested in establishing peace. Our interests would also be served if peace is established between us and them. This interest benefits all of Lebanon because we are not in a situation to be burdened by all the weaknesses of the Arab states. Once you realize the meaning of these missions and tasks, all sacrifices, including martyrdom, become bearable because it is for the sake of Lebanon and for the sake of the southern Lebanese, as most of us are from southern Lebanon.

We hope you will be a good yeast. I also believe that since you have undergone this intensive training you will be able to perform your tasks in a commendable manner. I also believe that, as you were marching yesterday, you saw the citizen looking forward to seeing an organized army — an army bringing comfort, satisfaction, and security to the citizen and an army allowing our people and families to sleep with comfort and peace of mind.

You can expect to hear many things in your houses and villages because the Lebanese like to theorize, politicize things, and speak their mind. Few people have sound and correct attitudes. The sound opinion is yours and this opinion is made manifest by your deeds and actions. I have no doubt you will be soldiers in the full sense of the word in the units to which you will be attached. You are expected to live and work in full harmony with the soldiers working in these units. You must have faith in what you are doing. Hence, I believe the results will be for the benefit of the area and for the benefit of Lebanon. The results for the region and Lebanon will be very rewarding.

I would like to use this opportunity to extend my thanks to the commander of the school and to the instructors who have exerted strenuous efforts to make you soldiers.

I also would like to thank all the Israeli officials for the help and aid they are extending to us. The Israelis are extending invaluable aid to us. Without this aid we would not be able to continue our march. I would like to thank them on your behalf and in my name for all this aid and all the sacrifices they have been making to help us.

I wish you all success in your units. Your efforts in your units will help us preserve our entity and will also bring comfort to our people and sons. This will also allow us to protect this land and preserve its Lebanese identity. This will allow the people to hold out on this land. Without you, I do not believe the people would remain steadfast. If we give up our job, the land will lose its Lebanese identity. Thank you.

Iranian Ministers Continue Meetings in Damascus

Visit Al-Kasm in Hospital

JN171150 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Hassan Abedi Ja'fari, Iranian trade minister; Mohsen Rafiqdust, Iranian minister of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps; Mohammad Javad Iravani, Iranian minister of economic and finance affairs; Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iranian assistant foreign minister; and Mohammad Hassan Akhtari, Iran's ambassador in Damascus, have visited Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm. The prime minister is currently hospitalized, and they went to inquire about his health. They brought Dr al-Kasm greetings from Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi and wishes for a speedy recovery.

It was agreed to postpone Musavi's visit to the country for several days. The trip was to have begun today.

Discuss Trade, Commerce

NC180547 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Mr 'Abedi-Ja'fari, Iran's minister of commerce, and Mr Mohammad Javad Iravani, Iran's minister of economy and finance, who are currently in Syria, met last night with Dr Muhammad al-Imadi, the Syrian minister of economy and foreign trade.

The Central News Unit reports that they discussed the expansion of economic cooperation and trade between the two countries.

Further on Visit by Supreme Soviet Delegation

Received by Minister al-Shar'

JN171316 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus, 17 Jun (SANA) — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at noon today. The members of the Soviet parliamentary delegation accompanying him were also present. Shakir Sa'id, chairman of the People's Assembly Arab and International Relations Committee and the Soviet ambassador in Damascus attended as well. The existing relations of friendship and cooperation between Syria and the USSR, the situation in the Middle East, and issues of common interest were discussed.

Talks Held With Assembly Speaker

JN171436 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus — At 0930 today a round of talks was held between the People's Assembly delegation headed by Mahmud al-Zu'bi and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation headed by Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The Soviet ambassador in Damascus was also present.

During these talks, both sides reviewed the existing bilateral ties of friendship, especially on the parliamentary level. They also reviewed the situation in the Middle East and the world at large.

Mahmud al-Zu'bi spoke at the beginning of the talks. He asserted that Syria's policy is consistent. It is based on resisting imperialist-Zionist pressures and challenges. He further stated that Syria's struggle will continue with cooperation from all progressive forces and by all its friends in the world, foremost of which is the Soviet Union. Al-Zu'bi said that Syria is working to reach a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East conflict and to eliminate all traces of the aggression being perpetrated against the Arab nation. The People's Assembly speaker praised the support and backing of the friendly Soviet Union, our honest ally, toward our just Arab issues. He also appreciated its great efforts to develop the Syrian Arab Republic in all fields and on all levels.

Arnold Ryuytel, head of the Soviet delegation, also spoke. He said the purpose of his visit was to exchange views on international foreign policy, especially on issues related to the Middle East conflict. Ryuytel referred to the Soviet Union's initiatives on nuclear disarmament, which seek to prevent the outbreak of nuclear warfare that could destroy human life. He explained his country's stands and its policy on international hotbeds of tension. Ryuytel said this policy is based on working with all progressive forces to serve world peace and security. He noted the importance of parliamentary dialogue and parliamentarians' role in developing and enhancing the ties of cooperation among various countries, especially those which struggle to achieve progress, security, and independence.

Sergey Losev and Tair Salakhov, members of the Soviet parliamentary delegation, spoke afterward. They paid tribute to Syria and its prominent militant stands in the Arab region. They also discussed the Soviet Union's initiative to resolve the Middle East conflict. This initiative focuses on the need to convene an international peace conference to achieve that objective. An international conference, they said, is designed to bring about a complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Arab territories. It should also attain the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to establish an independent state. Members of the Soviet delegation emphasized that the Palestine question is the central issue of the Middle East conflict. They also spoke on a number of international and Arab issues. The two delegations held fully identical views on all these issues.

At the end of the talks, the head and members of the Soviet parliamentary delegation expressed their great appreciation of the role being played by Syria in this sensitive part of the world. In addition, they praised the courageous and wise policy pursued by Syria under His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad on all levels and in all arenas.

Soviets Attend Assembly Session

JN171919 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Excerpt] The People's Assembly held a session this evening under the chairmanship of Speaker Mahmud al-Zu'bi. A number of ministers were present as well. The session was also attended by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation headed by Arnold Ryuytel, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is now visiting Syria.

At the beginning of the session the People's Assembly speaker delivered a speech. He welcomed the leader and members of the Soviet parliamentary delegation and praised Syrian-Soviet friendship. The speaker noted that this friendship is growing stronger on various levels, particularly after the important visit to the USSR by President Hafiz al-Asad and the talks which his excellency held with CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev. Al-Zu'bi welcomed the friendly delegation, asserting that this trip will strengthen the militant relations between both peoples and countries. Al-Zu'bi greeted the Estonian people as well as all the Soviet peoples who are looking forward to achieving happiness for the entire world.

A number of People's Assembly members then delivered speeches welcoming the guest delegation. They underscored the firm strategic relationship between the two friendly countries, Syria and the USSR — a relationship built on strong party ties and on the bases of the agreement of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. The People's Assembly members praised the USSR's support and backing of just Arab causes. They lauded the strong relations on all levels, including the parliamentary relations based on cooperation and understanding on bilateral levels and in the world. The speaker noted the importance of the Soviet parliamentary delegation's visit. He said this trip is distinguished by cordiality, camaraderie, and real friendship in light of the current situation. He noted this to be the case particularly since it takes place after the successful visit to the USSR by struggler Comrade Hafiz al-Asad and his talks with Soviet leaders.

The members affirmed Syria is a steadfast bastion in the face of imperialist and Zionist challenges and plots. They said that Syria's liberation struggle relies on its principled stands, on its intrinsic powers under President Hafiz al-Asad, on its friends' support led by the USSR. It also counts on support from forces of liberation and progress in the world. The speakers greeted the Soviet peoples on the occasion of their celebration of the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, which is considered a landmark and a turning point in the history of mankind toward achieving a society of progress and socialism for the entire world.

Afterward, Arnold Ryuytel, head of the Soviet parliamentary delegation, delivered a speech conveying the greetings of the Soviet parliamentarians to their comrades in the People's Assembly. He then spoke about the USSR's initiatives to remove the dangers of nuclear catastrophe from the world, to achieve world detente, and to stop the arms race. He affirmed the USSR's solidarity with the Syrian people who remained steadfast in the face of imperialist and Zionist challenges. Comrade Ryuytel also talked about the visit to the USSR by leader Comrade Hafiz al-Asad and its fruitful and constructive results. He affirmed the USSR's complete support for the just Arab struggle to liberate Arab territory and regain the Palestinian people's legitimate rights to self-determination and to establish an independent state.

He then talked about the revolutionary and deep changes inside the USSR to entrench the positions of socialism and democracy as well as to increase production in the service of the people. He said: Friendship with the Syrian people has become an integral part of the Soviet people's nature. He added that the historic solidarity between the forces of socialism and national liberation in the world makes this feeling mutual between the two peoples. In his speech, the head of the Soviet delegation noted the high level of the two friendly countries' relations. He observed that this relationship has reached into space. As evidence of this, he pointed out that a Syrian astronaut would be taking part in a mission in the next few days together with his Soviet colleagues. He hoped bilateral relations of cooperation and friendship would develop and deepen continuously.

After a short rest, the People's Assembly continued discussion of its agenda. [passage omitted]

Katushev Delegation Views Phosphate Accord

JN171405 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1330 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Damascus, 17 Jun (SANA) — Eng 'Isa Ibrahim Yusuf, assistant minister of oil and mineral wealth, has met with the technical delegation accompanying Comrade Konstantin Katushev, the visiting chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and member of the CPSU Central Committee. During the meeting, the two sides discussed the implementation of the cooperation agreement on phosphates signed between Syria and the USSR. This accord was concluded during President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to the USSR in April. At the end of the session, both sides agreed to bolster the existing collaboration between the two friendly countries. They also pledged to broaden this cooperation to cover investment in mineral resources in Syria as well as the exchange of technical expertise to benefit the two friendly states.

Khaddam Receives GDR Deputy Foreign Minister

JN171359 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received (Peter Winter), the GDR deputy foreign affairs minister, at 1030 today. The GDR ambassador in Damascus also attended the meeting. Talks dealt with bilateral relations, a number of international issues, and the regional situation.

Voice of Iraq Decries Saddam Husayn's 'Threats'

JN161422 Damascus Voice of Iraq in Arabic
1700 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] At last criminal Saddam Husayn has resorted to the old language of threats and intimidation. A few days ago he met with a group of Iraqi military personnel, decorated them with his war medals, and addressed them. In his address, he repeated many of the falsehoods to which he has grown accustomed. However, we must examine and scrutinize one of his phrases, one which reveals all the evil intentions which he has in store for our people. This phrase is: You will see.

The Iraqis are accustomed to cynicism whenever they hear the phrase: You will see or you will be sorry. They also joke about and mock those who say it, because this is the phrase of a coward who has failed and is incapable of giving a practical response. Hence, he reduces his responses to short, threatening phrases, lying in wait for the first treacherous chance to carry out his threat. What did Saddam Husayn mean when he uttered the phrase: You will see? And to whom is he really issuing his threat?

Butcher Saddam Husayn has become accustomed to uttering this threatening phrase to all of his enemies and adversaries, including our Iraqi people. He has also grown accustomed to waiting for the right moment to carry out his treacherous acts. He uttered this phrase during his ominous speech in 1980 following the events of Al- Mustansiriyah University. After this speech, he carried out a cowardly and treacherous act; he expelled more than 120,000 Iraqis to Iran.

Saddam Husayn also used this phrase to threaten the sons of our people living in the villages of northern Iraq. Consequently, he attacked them with chemical weapons. But the response was swifter and stronger than the butcher perceived. He also used this phrase to threaten our revolutionaries and said: You will see how I will exterminate those who carry weapons and fight in northern villages. However, he was awakened to the fact that the revolution stems from the people and that in its march the revolution is scoring one victory after another over his regime, its fascist symbols, and its dens and repressive apparatus.

This time he uttered this phrase before the public and directed it to foreign forces. But our people regard this phrase as an evil omen. Our people see nothing in Saddam's threats other than threats endangering them and the lives of their sons who were the first victims of his terrorism and war. This threat, ostensibly directed to the Iranians, means one thing; namely, that the tyrant will escalate his war once again, throwing brothers and sons into the furnace of calamity which leaves in every flare-up thousands of victims among the brothers and sons. Thus, the war was from the beginning directed not only against the Iranians, but primarily against our people whom the butcher wants to use as a fuel for that war. Otherwise, who would see the results of Saddam's threats?

During the rule of criminal tyrants in Baghdad and also during the period of their damned war, our people have seen many tragedies, calamities, and disasters. These incidents force them to bear witness to the terrifying signs of tragedy which smack of evil and nasty odors. It is high time for Saddam himself to see what the people have planned for him. Then Saddam will know that our people's decision to punish their butchers is not like the threats of criminal tyrants. He will realize this decision reflects an inevitability which is bound to impose itself as a reality in the arena of struggle against fascism and war. This would be followed by the extermination of the regime and all of its apparatus and symbols. Saddam Husayn is bound to meet his certain death. He will see his death and at then there will be no time for repentance or remorse.

Nur Ahmad Nur Discusses Coalition Government

LD170917 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Speech by PDPA Politburo Member Nur Ahmad Nur devoted to questions raised at 11 June meeting of Kabul party activists — live or recorded]

[Text] Dear comrades and esteemed friends. On 10 June a routine plenum of the PDPA Central Committee was held. The plenum assessed the report of Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA, on the realization of the policy of national reconciliation and the preparations for the national party conference. The plenum also heard a special report on preparations for the convocation of the national party conference. The plenum concluded its work in a comradely atmosphere of unity and solidarity and with revolutionary fervor.

The party [words indistinct] obtained the documents covering the current stage of the reconciliation process; they should be studied and distributed. It was added that the responsible parties should embark on executing the findings of the documents.

On 11 June the party activists in all wards of Kabul city met; in all, 6,000 took part. In these meetings 52 comrades spoke and 36 questions were asked. At the instruction of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo, I would now like to supply answers to a series of typical questions. So, let us begin by answering the questions:

A question was asked if political organizations and parties holding views that are in total contradiction with those of the PDPA can take part in a coalition government.

Worth noting in this question is with whom could the PDPA and the popular sovereignty form a coalition? This has been explained several times and it was again strongly emphasized in the course of the June plenum of the PDPA Central Committee. I would like to state here that we are making efforts to take specific and practical steps toward welcoming all those who are now ready for coalition and cooperation. The main point is that we should unite in an antiwar movement and honestly and honorably put into effect the principles of national reconciliation within the context of a coalition. Only the most fanatic enemies of national reconciliation will remain outside the circle of the coalition's power.

It has also been asked that if, under a coalition government, the leading role of the PDPA is not officially recognized and a united front is created, then how will the PDPA deal with such a situation.

I would like to emphasize that the PDPA is courageously and fearlessly holding its position in society and is taking steps to create political unity among the patriotic forces of Afghanistan, the basis of which should be a coalition government. We are not seeking one-sided privileges for ourselves. Our party has lived and struggled for 23 years now and it is growing and expanding. Our party's enemies, who have sought its elimination, existed in the past and are still quite significant now. However, all their efforts have ended in failure. This is not an incidental matter.

Our party has traveled this path of struggle for the prosperity of the people and the progress of the homeland so that no political group or organization can compete with it. We are used to such attacks by the enemy. The people have learned to distinguish barley from wheat. The people support our party, the party of revolutionaries and patriots, and this support will continue.

It is with pride that we recognize the fact that the PDPA is based on the people's power and that the PDPA relies on the Afghan people and is responsible to them. Therefore, the creation of a true national front is impossible without the participation of the PDPA. Every sort of move in this regard is [words indistinct] of the people. The role and position of any party or political organization in the national front depends on political unity. We know very well that it is not just through words, but also through organization, unity, discipline, and loyalty to its policy that political unity can be achieved. The essence of this policy is unity of word and action in carrying out wholehearted service to the people and homeland. We believe in the fact that the PDPA, as before, will be responsive to the main principle -- that is, the trust of the people -- which will be strengthened by the realization of the PDPA's leading role in society.

Another question: We have improved our understanding of our people, including the border tribes and clans. Why then do our tribal compatriots not enlist for service in the Army?

I completely concur with the first part of the question; namely, that we have enhanced our understanding of the people, particularly our tribal compatriots. This is clearly seen in the fact that everyone realizes the need for ending the fratricidal war and supporting the policy of national reconciliation. However, I would like to mention the following points in connection with the conscription of tribal compatriots. A large number of the proud sons of the tribes join the Armed Forces to help us defend the gains of the revolution. They (?defend) their freedom with self-sacrifice.

The primary policy of the military structure, under conditions of national reconciliation as pursued by our party, is the creation of a structure within the Armed Forces that relates to the traditional principles of organizing the defense of the Afghan state and the living areas of our tribal compatriots. Within such a structure, in addition to the regular units and companies, local units will also exist which in a [words indistinct] manner have an interest in defending and consolidating state power in the villages. Active participation in these units is no less important than serving in the Army.

Another question asked is will those comrades who have been removed from their work as a result of their mistakes be appointed to other work.

The answer to this is simple. In the cadres' party work, removing persons from their duties is not the aim. This matter is mainly a training measure. Every honest person can prove that not only has he corrected his mistakes in relation to the duties entrusted to him, but is also again suitable for holding important ranks.

Another question: What is the difference between the government of national unity and a coalition government?

In reality these forms are the same. A coalition is the unity of political forces, parties, and organizations at the state or local level that accept the necessity of carrying out general duties. Having a government of national unity also means having the unity of political forces, parties, and organization which, at the level of state and local organs of state power and [word indistinct] on the basis of mutual agreement act in [word indistinct]. It is obvious that in a national unity government more unity exists within the coalition. The PDPA has put forth the idea of unifying political forces with the aim of developing and deepening the April Revolution. The point here is not the name; the most important thing is the essence of the matter.

Another question deals with the [name indistinct] political parties and organizations. This measure has been established in Article 5 of the resolution of the June plenum of the PDPA Central Committee. The article states that under our present conditions, it is possible to have a multiparty system and to welcome those parties and organizations that, not in words but in action, are ready for national reconciliation. Thus, we can talk about those parties and organizations that by their actions, not just words, help to realize the policy of national reconciliation. It is understood that every one of these parties and organizations can establish the method of their role in this peace-seeking activity. Its final outcome, however, is the cessation of war and bloodshed and the transition to the constructive solution of tasks. This goal should be in accordance with the [words indistinct] goal of all the parties and organizations. The persecuted Afghan people have no other aim but this.

If a multiparty system is established, comrades ask, then what election system would be used.

Because it is obvious that we are talking about elections to the organs of state power and administration, then countries where a multiparty system has existed for many years can provide the answer to this question. We will utilize all positive aspects of these experiences, as well as our own experiences. In the past electionsfor local organs of state power and administration, not only party candidates but also nonparty candidates were introduced. These elections, as we know, have been successfully completed and elections during the second phase will continue in the same manner. In a multiparty system it is possible that collective candidates as well as candidates of various parties and organizations can run for office. In that case, two or more candidates can run for each delegate seat, and the people, by casting their votes, will answer the question by voting for either the PDPA candidate or the candidate of some other party or organization.

Why is the struggle against those who use their party position for their own self-interest not more vigorous?

The PDPA Constitution and the declarations of the party's Central Committee from the 18th plenum not only demand the condemnation of those elements in the party, but also demand an accounting by those party members who are enaged in spreading rumors in order to achieve higher authority. Last year, more than 5,000 persons were ousted from the party. Among them were position (?seekers) and others who rejected the Constitution.

Another question was: In discussions our comrades always emphasize that the people of Afghanistan are tired of war.

It would have been better to have said that the people of Afghanistan are tired of the senseless war. Yes, the people of Afghanistan are tired of war. But the war in our country continues at the (?behest) of international imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism, regional reaction, and the fanatical counterrevolutionaries. The war, which has been carried out by the Armed Forces and all true patriots of Afghanistan, is a just war. This war truly has meaning because it has been carried out in the interests of defending the territorial integrity, sovereignty, and independence of our beloved country.

Regarding the enemy -- that is, imperialism, regional reaction, and internal reaction -- it is a truly unjust war. What are the opposition's ideological principles? If the opposition points out that they fight for their belief, then they should know that we are the ones, however, who completely respect and observe Islam and defend it. Testimony to this fact can be found in hundreds of instances. If they consider terrorism and savagery to be the struggle for belief, then what sort of Muslims are they? They have no (?ideal). For them everything, including belief, can be bought and sold for money.

Many questions have been raised about changing the name of our state. As with other issues raised during national reconciliation, this issue also will be considered by the people. It is obvious that all of us must assess the draft of the new Afghan constitution. This will give rise to other questions whose positive solutions are essential for achieving the national reconciliation. One issue is that of a multiparty system in the coalition administration. Anything that assists the process of national reconciliation must be formulated in a timely, lively, and useful manner under the new constitution of our united and common homeland.

What are the concerns about changing the name of our state? The issue is not merely words. The issue is this: The words determining the name of the state must reflect reality; this will be in the interest of the national reconciliation, the cessation of bloodshed, and the resolution of the crucial issues around Afghanistan. For this reason we want to assess this problem with the participation of the opposition and of our compatriots, who are far from the homeland, and to bring about a formula for the name of our state acceptable to all. Let the people decide on the name.

Another question: Under the circumstances of a coalition government, what will be the duties of the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Endowment and the Center for Islamic Studies?

If these departments were to be placed under the authority of the opposition, would their duties be different? The Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Endowment and the Center for Islamic Studies, both now and under a coalition government, will have only one duty in serving Islam: comprehensive and profound study of the sacred religion of Islam and the utilization of its principles continuously and completely for the present and future prosperity of the people of Afghanistan.

Another question: If a multiparty system goes into effect, will not a number of PDPA members turn to other parties?

The multiparty system is being created so that all social, political, and national forces may suitably and perfectly reflect their interests on the basis of the common platform of national reconciliation and defend that common platform. As far as PDPA members' abandoning the party is concerned, this question in any specific situation will be resolved by every primary party organization in accordance with the provisions of the PDPA Charter. Our party has presented the initiative of national reconciliation and has opened the road of salvation for the people. This initiative has strengthened our party and has consolidated its standing and credibility in society and in the state.

Another question: What role will the forthcoming national party conference play in the party? Will political prisoners and persons expelled from the party be pardoned?

The national party conference, in connection with national reconciliation, without doubt will play a major role in the life of our party. More than 5 years have elapsed since the previous conference and only during the past 5 months, after the extraordinary plenum of the PDPA Central Committee and the proclamation of the national reconciliation policy, have many new issues been brought up which require consultations at high party levels. It was thought that if this [words indistinct] was not there the material of the past 5 months would have been enough for the national conference. An amendment must be made to the action program and charter of the party. The draft of the constitution, the progress of national reconciliation, the approach to other parties and organizations, and many other issues must be addressed at the national party conference and decisions must be made in these areas.

The future party conference will not deal with the issue of prisoners. An objective review of their dossiers, remittance, and release before their terms end, and a review of dossiers as a result of interference by the national reconciliation or their family members are issues that will be considered prior to their release and completion of their prison terms.

Another question asks: Will not the formation of a coalition government cause extra difficulties for the party?

Of course there will be difficulties, because a coalition government in Afghanistan will be a new phenomenon; no such government has existed in the past [words indistinct]. There will be new difficulties and I want to say that these difficulties will result from moving forward. The present difficulties, that is to say the difficulties stemming from the war, are harder to bear. We will cope with all of these difficulties.

Another question: Will the members of the Politburo always respond to crucial issues?

I can say that the full and candidate members of the Politburo, the secretaries of the Central Committee, and the personnel of the party and government leadership did not receive so many questions in the past, which made the people impatient for their replies. During the party sessions in the month beginning 21 March, around 34,000 questions, suggestions, and views were presented. I and all the members of the Politburo and the secretaries of the Central Committee are profoundly happy for the broad and lively interest of the party members and various strata of our people in connection with the national reconciliation policy and [words indistinct] regarding the policy taken by our party. We regard this formidable interest as a clear reason for the righteousness of the path followed by our beloved party.

Another question: Can the issues of the resolution be outlined, particularly those issues on the consolidation of the unity of the party, government, and military?

In reply to this question I read the text of the resolution:

Resolution of the plenum of the PDPA Central Committee concerning the consolidation of party, government, and military discipline in the national reconciliation stage:

The PDPA Central Committee points out that the realization of the national reconciliation policy will cause the [words indistinct] of the military and political situation in the country and further unity of the patriotic forces around the PDPA. At this stage of implementing the policy, the party organizations and organs of national sovereignty have been tangibly strengthened and the combat activities of the DRA Armed Forces have been improved. In addition, the counterrevolutionary nature of the uncompromising bands has been further exposed and the extent of armed interference from abroad is being broadened increasingly. Under the circumstances, faithfulness to the order of the revolution, self-sacrifice in work, and the subsequent consolidation of party, government, and military discipline are enjoying exceptional importance.

The plenum of the PDPA Central Committee approves: First, all party organizations, as well as all full and candidate members of the party, will remain in an extraordinary state under the conditions of the continuing undeclared war against Afghanistan until subsequent decisions are made. Every kind of violation of party, government, and military discipline, any violation of the charter and action program by the full and candidate members of the party will be challenged in a resolute manner up to the point of expulsion from the ranks of the PDPA.

All party members who work in the ministries, departments, and government institutions and enterprises must resolutely struggle against formalism, work against bureaucracy, against protectionism and favoritism, and must maintain the purposeful and coordinated work of government enterprises and social organizations in the interests of the national reconciliation policy. Any kind of sabotage, laziness, or deviation from the implementation of the decisions of the party and government leadership organs must be carefully assessed and the most severe administrative and legal measures taken against those who embark on such actions.

Third [number as heard]: The close attention of the entire party must be devoted to further consolidating military discipline in the DRA Armed Forces. Violations of military regulations and orders by the commanders, as well as by lower ranks in a number of units and companies, require improvements in the political

training work and living conditions of personnel and the maintenance of strict military order.

All party members, commanders, and political workers of the Armed Forces must always be with their men and noncommissioned officers in order to know their needs and demands and to forge ahead in individually explaining to them the policy of the PDPA.

Those military personnel who understand military discipline and then commit a crime are, in fact, direct accomplices of the enemy. In consideration of the legal provisions, unmerciful and resolute measures in accordance with military conditions must be taken against such persons.

Fourth: The local party and government organs, the mass media, and workers collectives must pay more attention to matters of discipline and improve the patriotic military education of units and companies. Supervision of workers and educational collectives should be established in military units, and constant attention should be paid to the families of military personnel.

Fifth: In response to acts of terrorism by the enemies of national reconciliation, the PDPA Central Committee calls on all party members to close ranks and enhance revolutionary vigilance and discipline.

The items contained in this resolution should be sent to themeetings of all full and candidate members of the PDPA. Strict measures for strengthening discipline should be taken and put into practice in every party committee and primary organization. The Ministries of Justice, Defense, Interior, and State Security should prepare drafts of laws necessary for the further strengthening of discipline and [words indistinct] and workers, and military collectives. These drafts should be presented to the Revolutionary Council for approval.

This was the resolution of the PDPA Central Committee on the strengthening of party, government, and military discipline in the course of national reconciliation.

Esteemed friends and dear comrades: In conclusion I would like to recall some words from the basic report to the plenum by Comrade Najib: The path we have chosen is correct. This path leads to peace. All of us should work better, resolutely take the offensive, and make efforts for the success of national reconciliation. Thank you.

Former King States Position on Cooperation

AU170920 Rome ANSA in English 0829 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] (ANSA) Rome — Former King Mohammed Zahir Shah of Afghanistan will not agree to "share power" with the current leader of the government in Kabul, Najibullah, according to a spokesman for the former monarch, who has lived here in exile since he was ousted from Kabul.

"Within the framework of a negotiated political solution to the Afghan problem, (he) wants the will of a combative and proud people to be given its full weight, for a return to a free and independent Afghanistan not subject to any foreign influence or interference," the spokesman told ANSA Tuesday.

The exiled 73-year-old king, who has been in Rome since 1973, was responding to Najibullah's statements reported from Moscow a couple of days ago. According to the Soviet news agency, TASS, he said the Kabul government is ready to "start negotiations with the former king's supporters and share power with them".

"It's not the first time the Kabul regime has declared its readiness to negotiate with different elements of the Afghan resistance", the spokesman asserted. "This is explained by the Afghan people's continual and growing pressure for the withdrawal of the Soviet troops and the formation of an Islamic regime which also reflects Afghanistan's traditional and national values".

According to the spokesman, the former king's position on the Afghan Government's proposals as voiced "on several occasions" is "clear".

Zahir Shah became king of Afghanistan in 1933 and ruled for forty years until he was ousted by a coup and the central Asian state declared a republic. The coup was led by Prime Minister Daud, who was supported by the armed forces and the "Parcham" faction of the local communists lead by Babrak Karmal. At the time, the king was in Rome for medical treatment, and he has lived here ever since.

In thirteen years, he has shunned the press. "After the coup in 1973", he said in one of his rare interviews, "I thought I was faced by an internal problem, and I wanted to avoid any spilling of blood".

"Instead, the first coup paved the way for a second one in 1978, which put the communists into power. In fact, they represented only a minority of the Afghan people and immediately aroused the people's spontaneous opposition. This is how the Afghan resistance was born, as something natural which immediately involved all the people".

Since the start of the Soviet intervention in his country on December 7, 1979, the former monarch has always urged the "unity of the whole people" and placed himself at their disposition "without reservation".

Lok Dal Candidates Take Lead in Haryana Polls

BK180746 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0730 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] In the Haryana assembly elections, counting trends are available from 41 constitutencies. Lok Dal candidates were leading in 22 constituencies, BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] in 10, and the Congress-I in 4 at the end of the second round of counting. In five constituencies independents were in the lead. Counting of votes was taken up in 68 constituencies at 0700 [0130 GMT] in the morning. It will be taken up in 11 other constituencies in the afternoon, while in 8 constituencies the counting will begin tomorrow.

Meanwhile, repolling is in progress in two polling stations in Salhawas and Nuh constituencies. The election commission has also ordered repoll in four more polling stations, two each in Adampur and Bawal, which will be held tomorrow from 0700 to 1500. According to the commission's spokesman, the repoll was ordered following allegations of booth capturing.

Gandhi Rejects Opposition Idea on Bofors Issue

BK171257 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] The government will move a motion for setting up the proposed parliamentary committee to examine the Swedish Audit Bureau report on the Bofors deal as soon as the monsoon session begins. This was announced at the meeting between the prime minister and leaders of opposition parties in New Delhi today.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi invited suggestions from the opposition leaders on the terms of reference, composition, and powers of the proposed committee. However, the prime minister did not agree to a suggestion by some opposition leaders that the West German submarine deal and the Fairfax issue should also be referred to the parliamentary committee. Mr Gandhi said that it will only dilute the probe and the government wants quick results and action against the guilty.

On Sri Lanka, Mr Gandhi said the air dropping by India was a relief to the Tamils in Jaffna and a message to the Sri Lankan Government that India will not sit back. About the visit of the Sri Lankan ministers to Pakistan recently, the government assured the opposition that it is alert and vigilant. Mr Gandhi said it is too early to assess the exact situation.

Gandhi Meets With Ousted Fijian Justice Minister

BK161611 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] The attorney general and the minister for justice in the deposed Fijian Government, Mr Jai Ram Reddy, called on the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in New Delhi today. Mr Reddy informed the prime minister about the latest situation in Fiji and his recent mission to London along with Dr Bavadra, the deposed prime minister.

Defense Minister Views Growth in Shipyards

BK180342 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] The defense minister, Mr K.C. Pant, has said the country's three defense shipyards have grown substantially and are now fully equipped to manufacture sophisticated warships. He was addressing the meeting of the parliamentary consultative committee of his ministry in New Delhi.

Mr Pant said the defense shipyards have initiated an exercise for creation of requisite infrastructure facilities to match the long-term requirements of the Navy and the Coast Guard. The minister of state for defense production, Mr Shivraj Patil, said all possible steps are being taken to ensure better capacity utilization.

Foreign Ministry Recalls Diplomats From UK

LD180958 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Greetings. We begin with the news of our recalling members of the Iranian Embassy in Britain. The Central News Unit reports that following the assault on an Iranian diplomat in Manchester, in Britain, and as that country's government has not followed the Vienna Convention, the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran recalled all members of its embassy in London, with the exception of one, 2 days ago.

This decision was made in the wake of the crisis in relations between the two countries, the assault on the Iranian diplomat in Manchester, and the tit-for-tat expulsions of both sides' diplomats. It was decided that the members of the diplomatic delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran in London should return to Tehran within 2 weeks.

It is noteworthy that in the 8 years since the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran, the British police have repeatedly acted in violation of the Vienna Convention. In this regard we can mention the martyrdom of two Iranian diplomats in the attack by the British police on the Iranian Embassy in London.

Foreign Minister Issues Statement on UAE

LD181739 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Our country's foreign minister has issued a statement on the situation in Al-Shariqah. Referring to the relative tranquillity brought about through the cooperation of other countries in the Persian Gulf region, the statement stresses that in order to completely halt the emergence of any new tension, it is first necessary to maintain regional solidarity in the event this situation may lead the superpowers and the enemies of the peoples' interests to abuse it.

In another part of his statement, the foreign minister says: The Islamic Republic of Iran, as the most powerful country of the region, states that as long as the superpowers' greed exists, the emergence of any turmoil will disrupt the united ranks of the region's people. Iran thus believes that the preservation of tranquillity is highly vital. Iran believes that any turmoil and instability will come from the direction of the superpowers and also from the warmongering Iraqi regime.

The unity and solidarity of the UAE, our friend and fraternal country, is essential within the framework of the constitution of that country. Thus, those who are benefitting from the appearance of these differences and from this chaos are evidently those same agents who pursue warmongering and tension in the Persian Gulf region.

We cannot ignore the events in Al-Shariqah, including Dubayy's serious objection to the new situation. The Islamic Republic of Iran has been following events in that emirate with anxiety and with the utmost attention; it is waiting to complete its investigations.

'Fath-6' Operation Launched in Iraq's Kurdistan

LD180749 Tehran IRNA in English 0740 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 18, IRNA — Muslim combatants of Iran and Iraqi Muslim Kurdish Peshmergas liberated several strategic heights and logistical axes inside Iraqi territory during Fath-6 operations started Wednesday night.

During the operations carried out in north of Irbil in Iraq's Kurdistan, tens of Iraqi forces were killed or wounded. So far 102 Iraqi troops have been moved behind the fronts. A large amount of Iraqi light arms and semi-heavy weaponry were seized also undamaged.

The headquarters of Islamic Revolution's Guard Corps (IRGC) further reported in a communique Thursday that the operations were carried out in retaliation for Iraq's acts of mischief in making the people of Iraq's Kurdistan homeless and also for the chemical bombardment of Iraqi residential areas.

Muslim combatants of Iran and Muslim Kurdish Peshmergas of Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iraq, Hezbollah of Iraq's Kurdistan along with Islamic Da'wa [Islamic Call] party of Iraq launched the operations early Wednesday in two axes.

In Kurt-Salim Khan axis, Dilkah and Sikhan [name as received] heights were liberated. The 38th battalion of the popular forces and the 'Jash Mohammad Aqabeiq' battalions were destroyed by 80 percent in this axis. Also 200 Iraqi forces were killed and wounded and a number of others were captured.

In the second axis, in Mirgah Sur, the Mirgah Sur-Diyanah road, and the strategic heights of Qalandar and logistic bridge and battalion of Mazane [name as received] were attacked. The Qalandar heights and Mazane brigade were set ablaze during the operations.

Muslim combatants and Kurdish Peshmergas then attacked military columns in this axis and destroyed 16 Iraqi military vehicles killing and wounding a large number of their crews and capturing others.

The city of Mirgah Sur was also attacked in the operations and six heavy artillery units were set ablaze in the very first hours of clashes. The operations have now spread to the central streets of the city, with numerous bodies of slain Iraqi forces lying in the city.

In these operations, government buildings and police and intelligence centers of the city were taken over by Iranian and Kurdish combatants. The Muslim combatants were reportedly continuing their mopping up operations in western part of the city at the time the report was originally transmitted.

More than 200 Iraqi troops were killed or wounded and so far 102 captives have been taken behind the fronts.

Iraqi forces launched on two futile counter-attacks. They were backed by heavy artillery fire, but were forced to withdraw by Muslim combatants.

Iraqi Battalions Destroyed

LD180926 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0900 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention. Reports received from the "Fath-6" operational theater indicate that following intense confrontations in the (Keverd Salim Khan) heights, the combatants of Islam killed another 250 members of the Ba'thist forces and captured a number of others. In the course of the "Fath-6" operation, the Light (Mohammad Sadiq Bayk) Battalion and the 38th (Jaysh ol-Sha'bi) Battalion stationed in the region were 80 percent destroyed. With the destruction of the said battalions a large number of light and semi-heavy weapons and several ammunition depots were set on fire and destroyed. A large quantity of arms and equipment, including several semi-heavy weapons, radio sets, and personal firearms and ammunition were taken as booty by our warriors.

Strategic Heights Captured

LD180927 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0913 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention. According to a report from the Khatem ol-Anbiya' base, the headquarters for the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on the second axis of the "Fath-6" operations in the town of Mirgah Sur and the surrounding areas, in a heroic battle with the defeated Iraqi forces our powerful forces killed or wounded a number of them and captured the strategic Qalandar Heights and have them under their control.

Mirgah Sur Surrounded

LD180941 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0914 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Reports received from the "Fath-6" operational theater indicate that, following the courageous battle fought by our warriors, in an unprecedented battle with enemy forces on the Mirgah Sur-Diyanah road a number of enemy forces were killed, wounded, or captured. In the course of this coordinated operation, the communicating (Majleh) bridge was destroyed and the (Majleh) battalion stationed in the region was destroyed by the forces of Islam.

Dear listeners, reports received from Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters indicate that the combatants of Islam, following the destruction of Iraqi forces stationed on the important strategic Qalandar heights and blocking the Mirgah Sur-Diyanah link road, have now completely surrounded the town of Mirgah Sur inside Iraq. At present fighting continues around the town, and the forces of Islam are keeping a check on all enemy movements and activities.

Town Offices Destroyed

LD181018 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0916 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention to a report from Khatem ol-Anbiya' base. Following the infiltration of the powerful fighters of Islam inside Mirgah Sur, the administrative and military offices of the mercenaries of the Iraqi regime and the headquarters of the security organization of the town were destroyed by the forces of Islam. In the course of the destruction of these premises, 100 more Iraqi forces were killed or wounded; their corpses are scattered throughout the town. Also in the course of mopping up the town, other enemy personnel were captured, 35 of whom have been evacuated behind the lines. Since the start of the "Fath-6" operations, the number of Iraqi POWs evacuated behind the lines has reached 85.

There is no victory except from God, the Almighty, the All-blessed. [Koranic verse]

Events Marking Construction Jihad Anniversary

Khomeyni Receives Delegation

LD171226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] On the occasion of the 17 June anniversary of the issuance of a charter by the imam of the ummah on the establishment of the Construction Jihad, families of the martyrs, the missing, and prisoners of war of the Construction Jihad met this morning with Imam Khomeyni at the Jamaran residence.

Nuri, the representative of the imam to the Construction Jihad, submitted a report on the stages of the establishment and the vast, extensive, and miraculous [as heard] activities of the Construction Jihad concerning the affairs of the deprived and the oppressed. His report, which was submitted to the imam of the ummah, specifically referred to the Construction Jihad's activities regarding the country's rural populace, as well as the notable presence of its personnel on the battlefields and its worthy martyrs in various arenas of the Islamic revolution. He also informed the families of the martyrs of the Construction Jihad of his holiness the imam's gratitude, greetings, and condolences.

At the end of the meeting Imam Khomeyni responded to the report.

Khamene'i Attends Meeting

LD171530 Tehran IRNA in English 1525 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 17, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i said here Tuesday that big powers of the world are bullying governments and nations around the globe and that mankind is now seriously being held in thrall to tyranny, poverty, class discrimination, atheism and corruption, to such an extent that it is scared even to think of an uprising and struggle.

The president made the remarks during a ceremony held to commemorate the 8th anniversary of establishment of Construction Jihad (CJ) in 1979 following a decree by leader of the Islamic Revolution Imam Khomeyni.

Referring to the U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf, Khamene'i said big powers have over-awed their client states with their expansionist image and pointed to the U.S. as an example which he said is trying to interfere in the region under the lame pretext of safeguarding its so-called interests.

The Islamic Revolution said the president has bravely stood against all these bullies, the first such incident in the history of colonialism and will dauntlessly speak with the same tone to all big powers. "This stems from the greatness of Islam," he noted. Iranian resistance is a byword for Islamic honour in the world, the president said, adding "We realize the value of these martyrdoms which are not aimed only at protecting Iran's borders but also as a means for Islamic resurgence."

President on Role in Agriculture

LD172031 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Excerpt] On the eighth anniversary of the founding of the Construction Jihad, President Khamene'i today inspected the works and agricultural activities of this revolutionary institution in the Eshtehard district of Karaj. At the end of this inspection, the president gave an interview in which he talked about the role of the Construction Jihad in agriculture, and said:

[Begin Khamene'i recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I would say that the answer to this question [as heard] is self-evident. All the people of our country today know — and it has been declared as the official policy of the revolution — that total self-sufficiency in the country without self-sufficiency in agriculture is meaningless. If we do not aim at real self-sufficiency regarding people's food and in agricultural matters, then we have no right to chant the slogan of self-sufficiency because the agriculture sector is all-important to the present and future situation of the country. And it should really be the principal base for policy-making and planning in the country.

The role of the Construction Jihad in reviving villages, agricultural work, and boosting agricultural issues is, to be fair, very prominent. This is because the Jihad brothers — who from the start concerned themselves with the work to be done in villages, entered into various aspects of the life of the huge rural sector's life, and paid attention to rural society — became interested in agriculture as agriculture cannot be separated from rural life. Many other issues were brought up concerning agriculture. And today, when the Jihad also takes care of such things as electricity, water, roads, and so on, that is, rural services, the real purpose and beneficiary of all these works is agriculture. They are setting up drainage systems for agriculture, building roads and irrigation channels, and providing basic services for the villagers -- all for agrilculture.

Agriculture provides the basis for the work of the Jihad and, thanks to the Almighty, it has been successful. It is a revolutionary force, one that entered the arena of production, services, and work in the field of rural life; and it succeeded. It would be surprising if it had not.

Still, it is necessary to pay much attention to agricultural issues now that the question of pooling agricultural affairs [yek kaseh kardan-e keshavarzi] is being considered; this is a very good project and we hope that it will bring blessings to the country's agriculture. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Khamene'i Welcomes Coalition of Afghan Rebels

LD172228 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
2030 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] The leaders of the eight Afghan groups and the Muslim combative party of Afghanistan, in the course of ceremonies in the presence of President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, formally announced their coalition in order to strengthen their struggle to remove the occupying forces from their country and establish an Islamic system.

During these ceremonies, Khamene'i congratulated the leaders of the eight Muslim and combative Afghan groups for setting up the great Islamic coalition of Afghanistan and said: We hope that this great Islamic coalition will, in time, unite the existing Muslim and struggling groups, and eventually the great ummah of Afghanistan.

While stressing that the current Afghanistan situation is more sensitive than ever before and that events are moving in favor of the struggling groups, the president added: In general, the events, phenomena, and political developments of the world today and the proposals being made on the issue of Afghanistan make us feel that the Islamic movement of the people is stronger than ever before, so much so that both the Russians and the puppet regime of Afghanistan sense that the future belongs solely to the Muslim people of Afghanistan; only the people of Afghanistan can shape the political future of this country. This is owed to God's blessings and the struggle of you, the Muslim people of Afghanistan.

While stressing that the will of the superpowers and the aggressive powers of the world is never in accord with the desire of the oppressed nations of the world, the president said: The nations should, through their struggle and steadfastness, impose their righteous will on the dominating powers and their puppet governments; this is quite possible and practical.

While stressing that the Islamic Republic of Iran has fully recognized the Islamic coalition of Afghanistan and will strongly support it, Khamene'i added: The Islamic Republic of Iran regards this coalition as a representative of a large part of the Afghan nation [as heard] and is hoping that through your efforts and divine might, your struggle will continue to serve Islam and the revolutionary forces.

In conclusion, Khamene'i, referring to the visit of a representative of Afghanistan's puppet regime to Iraq and (?the understanding) between these two regimes' leaders and authorities,

said: That visit proved that the destinies of those two regimes are tied together; and God willing, with the collapse of those two regimes, Islam will claim as a reward the people of Iran and Afghanistan.

Khomeyni Appoints 2 to Islamic Courts

LD152220 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] By issuing two separate orders, the imam of the ummah graciously appointed Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Razini as the Shari'ahjudge of the special court for the clergy, and Hojjat ol-Eslam Fallahian as the public prosecutor for the same court, while maintaining their present posts. The text of the order issued by Imam Khomeyni to Hojjat Ol-Eslam 'Ali Fallahian is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Your Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Mr 'Ali Fallahian, may your blessings continue. In view of the need and importance of safeguarding the prestige of the clergy and seminaries, I appoint your excellency as the public prosecutor of the special court for the clergy, while maintaining your present post. I do this so that you can, in accordance with regulation of the holy Shari'ah, investigate the offenses committed by the pseudoclergy and those who sell their religion for mundane matters.

Meanwhile, all the courts and tribunals are dutybound to assist you by dispatching the dossier of the cases that this court demands within the limits of its authority. Your Excellency is familiar with the activities of the counterrevolution under various guises and different cloaks. Therefore, it will be appropriate for you to carry out your heavy responsibility with utmost care and decisiveness and without being influenced by anyone. You must bear in mind that God is present and is watching your every move. You should, therefore, observe Islamic justice and fairness in every step.

May god grant you success to serve Islam, the Muslims, and the clergy. Peace be upon you.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni

The text of Imam Khomeyni's order to Hojjat ol-Eslam Razini is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Your Excellency Mr 'Ali Razini, may your blessings continue. It is necessary and important to safeguard the prestige of the clergy and seminaries. In view of this, I appoint you as the Shari'ah judge of the special court for the clergy. In accordance with regulations of the holy Shari'ah, you are now empowered to investigate the offenses of the pseudoclergy. Also, your present position is maintained.

It is obvious that the Supreme Judicial Council will offer you all the necessary assistance. They will issue the appointment orders of the courts and tribunal judges and provide the necessary manpower and resources. Meanwhile, all the courts and tribunals are dutybound to send all the files demanded by this court within the limits of its authority.

Your Excellency should perform your Shari'ah duty with utmost care, precision, and decisiveness. You should bear in mind that Almighty God is present and watching. Do not be influenced by anybody or anything. I beseech Almighty God to grant success to you and those who cooperate with you in this mission. Peace be upon you.

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni

Commentary Views Iraqi Policy on Gulf Attacks

LD161407 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1100 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The visits to Islamic Iran in the past few days by Soviet and Japanese political and diplomatic delegations ranked high among developments in the Middle East and the world at large. The latest positions taken by those two countries on the war and on the political and economic issues in the region were discussed in meetings held with the delegations.

What makes the visits significant, however, is the clarification of the two countries' stands following the failure of the U.S.-Iraq-Saudi Arabia conspiracy over the episode involving the *Stark*. Also of note are the views they share with the Islamic Republic of Iran, which consider the Iraqi regime to be the cause of regional tension.

Other issues raised at the meetings included security, stability, and peace in the Persian Gulf. The emphasis given these questions reinforces the view that the superpowers' presence in the region will lead to an escalation of tension and instability. This, in turn, would allow America to (?take advantage) of the situation. Then we heard the other day that in comments at the United Nations, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz reaffirmed that Iraq will resume attacks on oil tankers and commercial vessels in the Persian Gulf.

He noted that attacks on shipping were suspended after the attack on the U.S. frigate *Stark* on 17 May 1977 [as heard]. He added: Now,however, having investigated the attack on the *Stark*, we intend to resume the job.

America's supportive action for Kuwait in May, which was ostensibly at the latter's request, was part of a joint conspiracy hatched by the United States, Iraq, and reactionaries in the region to facilitate the superpowers' presence in the area. As for the Soviet Union, it followed in U.S. footsteps by offering to protect Kuwaiti ships without giving a thought to the grave consequences of such an act.

As time passed, unforeseen developments, including the attack on a Soviet ship by gunboats, damaging of a Soviet freighter by a mine, and, most importantly, the *Stark* incident, changed the regional situation completely. These incidents strengthened the

argument that the Persian Gulf is not a safe place for the superpowers, particularly if they support Iraq's warmongering policies.

Having already attacked some 200 merchant ships in the Persian Gulf in the past 18 months, the Iraqi regime came under fire in world news reports and commentaries after the *Stark* incident, which remains a complete mystery. Consequently, some important aspects of the Iraqi regime's barbaric acts in the course of the war were unwittingly presented to the world public. In the meantime, congressional opposition to the U.S. Administration's interventionist policies in sensitive regions was among the significant issues that led to yet another defeat for Reagan's policies against the Islamic revolution.

As for the comments by Tariq 'Aziz at the United Nations, it is part of a farce which is presented by Iraq as the finale to the *Stark* episode in its cooperation with America. A significant point to note is the fact that the Iraqi foreign minister made his remarks on the resumption of attacks at the United Nations, of all places. He uttered his statement in what is regarded as a house where differences are raised and settled, a place which is the primary source of preventing aggression and tough action against other countries. This shows the insolence and boldness of the ruling quarters in Baghdad to the extent that, even under the aegis of this body, they openly threaten ships in order to create tension in the region.

There is no doubt that this boldness emanates from the weak and, at the same time, protective approach by the Security Council toward a regime which, during nearly 7 years of war, has repeatedly violated international law and has resorted to torture and injury of its faithful and freedom-loving people inside Iraq.

At any rate, as was pointed out by President Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i during his meeting with the Japanese foreign minister, to escalate a war is as offensive as starting one. Iraq has already committed both offenses. Because the world did no react properly to Iraq's initial offense of starting the war, Iraq consequently continued to create tension in the region and escalated the war to commit the second offense. Now if the world refuses to tolerate Iraq's second offense, it will become embroiled in further difficulties and crises [as heard]. Therefore, if international bodies, headed by the Security Council, fail through their just (?measures) to punish the aggressors and thus prevent the continued aggression of the Ba'thist regime, then, surely, their failure and procrastination will result in such consequences that will do irreparable harm to the security of the region and world peace.

Musavi, Delegation Return From Visit to Turkey

LD171605 Tehran IRNA in English 1500 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 17, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi and his entourage arrived here Wednesday at the end of a three-day official visit to Turkey.

They were welcomed at Tehran's Mehrabad International Airport by Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, interior minister Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Mohtashami, a number of other ministers, several military commanders and some foreign diplomats in Tehran. The premier reviewed the honor guard at the airport after his arrival.

Velayati Reports to Cabinet on PRC, DPRK Talks

LD172217 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 17, IRNA — Major domestic and international issues were discussed in Wednesday's session of the cabinet presided over by interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi.

During the session foreign minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati back from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and China briefed the cabinet on South-South cooperation conference held in the DPRK capital Pyongyang and on his talks with Chinese officials. He described the results of the conference as "successful" and stressed on establishing stronger relations with the Third World countries during the conference.

The cabinet also approved 1.5 billion rials (more than $20 million) appropriation to increase the defense capabilities of the Islamic Revolution's committees.

Commerce Minister Departs for Meeting in Syria

LD142009 Tehran IRNA in English 1620 GMT 14 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA — Iran's Minister of Commerce Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari left here Sunday for Damascus to take part in the fifth Iran-Syria joint commission. He is accompanied by Minister of Economic and Financial Affairs, Mohammad Javad Irvani. The two countries are to ink a letter of understanding at the conclusion of the six-day meet.

Speaking before his departure, Abedi-Ja'fari told IRNA that the joint commission meets annually to review expansion of Tehran-Damascus ties and to promote good bilateral political relations.

Talks at the fifth commission meet will center on bilateral expansion of trade, economic, political, financial, oil and cultural relations, Abedi-Ja'fari said, adding that a letter of understanding will also be signed.

Iravani also said Iran and Syria have historical and strategic ties. "Syria has been in the forefront in the fight against Zionism," he said, noting that progressive Syria has close relations with Iran and has always supported Iran's stance. Iravani pointed out that talks will be held during the Iranian delegation's visit on expansion of economic cooperation, elimination of problems concerning purchases as well as financial ties.

Talks will also be held on technical and industrial cooperation, joint investments, expansion of banking, insurance and tourism cooperation, Iravani said. He also said views will be exchanged on dispatch of 60,000 Iranian pilgrims to Syria in the current year (started March 21).

Delegation Visits Ailing Syrian Prime Minister

LD171205 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Because of the illness of Syrian Prime Minister Al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, Messrs Mohsen Rafiqdust, Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari, and Mohammad Javad Iravani, ministers of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, commerce, and economy and finance respectively, accompaned by the political undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Damascus, today visited the Syrian prime minister in Shifa Hospital on behalf of the prime minister of our country. They conveyed to him the message of our prime minister wishing him a speedy recovery.

It should be noted that because of the sudden illness of Mr Al-Kasm, the visit by the Syrian prime minister to Iran, which was planned for today, has been postponed.

Argentine Trade Official Meets With Larijani

NC160806 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] The deputy foreign trade minister [as heard] of Argentina and Mr Larijani, our deputy foreign minister for economic and international affairs, have met in Tehran. They discussed the various fields of economic cooperation between Iran and Argentina.

The Central News Unit reports that during this meeting Mr Larijani commented on U.S. intervention in the Persian Gulf. He said that regional countries have a duty to preserve Persian Gulf security. This region's problems and difficulties should not be worsened, he stated.

The Argentine deputy foreign trade minister replied that his government opposes the involvement of foreign powers in the Persian Gulf. He said that Argentina prefers that problems be solved by the regional states.

At the end of the meeting, it was agreed that a high-ranking political and economic delegation from Argentina would visit the Islamic Republic of Iran. Its purpose will be to discuss and study the possibilities of cooperation between the two countries.

Iraqis Mount Search for Missing Top Official

LD171148 Tehran IRNA in English 1100 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Bakhtaran, June 17, IRNA — Following the disappearance of 'Issat Ibrahim al-Dowi, member of Iraq's Revolutionary Command Council and Saddam Husayn's first deputy at the Iraqi General Command Headquarters, authorities have launched intensive reconnaissance activities to trace him and a group of others who are said to have recently fled to Iraqi Kurdistan.

'Issat Ibrahim, a Kurd himself, travelled to Iraqi Kurdistan which is up in arms against the Ba'thist regime, two weeks ago to hold talks with the revolting Kurds but has disappeared since then.

Iraqi forces have searched houses of Shaykh Kaki, a ranking Kurd theologian in Irbil, Mohammad Shaykh 'Abd al-Karim Kasnazali, head of Qadiri sect in Kirkuk and Shaykh Abdul Qadir Joweise [name as received] in Sayyid Sadiq in this connection.

Guards Corps Units To Hold Maneuvers 19 Jun

LD171207 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1020 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has announced: To ensure a level of readiness and to meet the moves of global arrogance in the Persian Gulf, the special forces of the I Sarollah Corps, which include combat units from the 27th Rasullollah Division, the 10th Division of Seyyed ol-Shohada, the 17th Division of 'Ali ibn Abitaleb, the 42d Engineering Division of Badr, the 62d Brigade of Khatem ol-Anbiya' Artillery, the 20th Armored Brigade of Ramadan, the 10th Defensive Brigade of Moharram, Sh-M-R [expansion unknown] Brigade of Sajjad 24, as well as corpsmen and resistance units from the mobilization forces of Tehran, central provinces, and Qom, will participate in the "Defenders of the Persian Gulf" exercises on Friday, 19 June. They will move toward the designated Friday prayers sites to demonstrate the glory and greatness of the Army of Islam and to declare their readiness for any martyr-seeking operations.

Reportage on Combat Operations Against Iraq

Communique No 2,869

LD161610 Tehran IRNA in English 1603 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 16, IRNA — Iraqi forces fired chemical shells at Iranian positions in Hoseyniyeh theater, southern fronts Sunday, wounding some Iranian combatants, said a military communique here Tuesday.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2869 said that Iranian Navy gunboats intercepted and searched nine cargo ships and oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz yesterday but found no suspicious cargo aboard them.

Muslim forces of Iran reconnoitered and shelled Iraqi positions in parts of the northwestern and western fronts yesterday, destroying several enemy gun emplacements, seven vehicles and two munitions dumps.

At least five Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded in a southern front by Iranian artillery fire Monday. Iranian gendarmerie forces inflicted heavy casualties on Iraqi troops and destroyed 20 gun emplacements and two munitions dumps of theirs in parts of the southern fronts Monday. Other casualties and losses inflicted on Iraqi troops in other fronts of the Iraqi-imposed war were killing or wounding of a number of enemy soldiers and destruction of several gun emplacements, vehicles, armoured personnel carriers and munitions dumps.

Exchange of artillery fire continued throughout the fronts yesterday raging somewhat more heavily in Zayd, southern fronts, where Iraqi forces incurred substantial losses in men and equipment. An Iraqi patrol convoy trying to infiltrate Iranian positions in a western front Monday was forced to flee when it was shelled by Iranian artillery fire. Iraqi reinforcement activities in Nahr 'Anbar, southern fronts, were checked by Iranian artillery fire yesterday, the communique concluded.

Iraqis Bomb Kurdistan Village

LD161808 Tehran IRNA in English 1756 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 16 IRNA — Iraqi warplanes bombed areas around Buyen-e Pa'in village, some five kms southeast of the northwestern town of Baneh in Kurdistan province, at 09:50 GMT Tuesday.

The Iraqi bombing left no casualties or losses.

Communique No 2,870

LD171629 Tehran IRNA in English 1558 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 17, IRNA -- Iraqi forces sustained substantial casualties and several enemy gun emplacements and vehicles together with one jeep-mounted 106 mm gun and three munitions dumps were destroyed in parts of the northwestern and western fronts in artillery duels with Iranian Muslim combatants yesterday.

Announcing the above here Wednesday, the 2870th Joint Staff Communique said that at least seven Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded in a southern front by Iranian artillery fire Tuesday.

Elsewhere throughout the fronts, Iranian forces shelled Iraqi positions and vehicle columns yesterday, killing or wounding a number of enemy soldiers and setting ablaze several vehicles, armoured personnel carriers and munitions dumps of theirs.

Several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and 25 enemy gun emplacements, three vehicles and one munitions dump were destroyed in parts of the southern fronts when they were shelled by Iranian gendarmerie forces.

Iranian Navy gunboats checked movement of Iraqi vessels around the Khawr 'Abdallah waterway and around Al-Bakr and Al-'Amyah oil platforms yesterday. They also intercepted and searched an oil tanker and a cargo ship in the Strait of Hormuz but found no suspicious cargo aboard them.

Iraqi warplanes violated the airspace of the northwestern city of Sardasht, West Azarbayjan Province, at 08:45 GMT Tuesday but were forced to flee by Iranian anti-aircraft fire without carrying out any bombing missions.

Iranian artillery fire checked movement of an Iraqi vehicle column in Chazabeh, southern fronts, Tuesday, inflicting heavy damage on it. Reconnaissance flights of Iraqi helicopters in Nahr 'Anbar and Zobeydah were checked by Iranian anti-Aircraft fire.

Iranian artillery fire prevented an Iraqi engineering unit from removing barbed-wire fences in Naft-e Shah, western fronts, Tuesday, the communique concluded.

150 Iraqi Casualties Inflicted

LD171659 Tehran IRNA in English 1648 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., June 17, IRNA — More than 30 Iraqi bunkers, gun emplacements, command headquarters of Iraq's seventh corps and the so-called popular army as well as eight munitions depots and fuel tanks were set afire and destroyed when enemy positions along 35 kms. in Siba region, southern Iraq came under heavy artillery fire of Iranian combatants Tuesday.

During the shelling Iranian forces halted enemy relocation activities in Basra-Abulkhasib and Abulkhasib-al-Faw killing or wounding 150 Iraqi troops.

Communique No 2,871

LD181622 Tehran Irna in English 1604 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Tehran, June 18, IRNA — Combatants of Iran's ground forces and gendarmerie troops thwarted a futile Iraqi attack in a western front Tuesday destroying considerable amount of enemy weaponry and killing or wounding some 50 Iraqi soldiers.

The report came in the Joint Staff Communique No. 2871 here today where it added that Iran's Naval craft intercepted and searched nine cargo vessels and tankers in Strait of Hormuz Wednesday and Thursday. but allowed them to sail since no Iraq-destined cargo turned up on board.

In the southern fronts Iranian forces consolidated their defensive positions and brought under fire Iraqi strongholds, infantry, armoured and artillery positions inflicting some casualties and losses on enemy troops.

Relocation activities of Iraqi motorised columns and armoured units in Sumar and Panjwin operational regions were disrupted by Muslim forces with the enemy suffering substantial losses. Iraqi patrol operations in Sardasht region was also suppressed by Iranian combatants who forced enemy troops to flee from the area.

Iranian patrols checked Iraqi movements in a northwestern front Tuesday and Muslim forces forced enemy troops to flee from the region suffering substantial casualties and losses.

15 Injured, 50 Arrested in Latest Karachi Riots

BK171525 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] Fresh riots have broken out in Karachi. Reports say at least 15 people were injured in clashes between Pakhtoons and Mohajirs. Police resorted to firing after teargas failed to disperse the violent mob in the eastern part of the city. According to police, 50 people have been arrested.

'Strong' Bomb Blast Reported in Peshawar 16 Jun

BK180224 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] According to a report, there was a strong bomb blast in the (Taskalpine) area of Peshawar on Tuesday [16 June] evening. There was no mention of any loss of life.

'Profiteers' Arrested Following Budget Proposals

BK180514 Hong Kong AFP in English 0417 GMT 18 Jun 87

[Text] Islamabad, June 18 (AFP) -- Hundreds of traders were arrested in a swoop on profiteers, officials said as witnesses reported police clashing with thousands of civil servants and workers in continuing protests at budget price rises. Several thousand mill workers and civil servants were tear-gassed by police in the northwestern city of Peshawar as they set out for Islamabad, intending to press a pay claim at the parliament building here, witnesses reported.

Authorities said Wednesday hundreds of shopkeepers were arrested in a two-day police swoop against profiteers in the aftermath of the budget.

After containing the demonstrators in Peshawar's Jinnah Park, police deflated the tyres of some protestors' vehicles, witnesses said. Some protestors, defying police orders to disperse, threw rocks at police and fired shots in the air, before succeeding in setting off for the capital in dozens of privately hired buses, they said. At least eight people were injured, witnesses said, while police said six or seven union leaders had been detained for planning the rally despite a ban by authorities on gatherings of more than five people.

Demonstrations were also held in Lahore and other cities while employees at the Civil Secretariat in Islamabad were barred by authorities from gaining access to the parliament building a few hundred metres away, where deputies were discussing new bud get proposals, witnesses said. Pakistan's June 4 budget triggered countrywide protests as consumer prices sky-rocketed.

Prime Minister Mohammed Khan Junejo last Friday abolished a new defense tax and withdrew several additional levies to defuse tension. People generally expressed satisfaction at the withdrawal of controversial taxes and Mr. Junejo ordered the business community to bring the prices back to the June 3 level. But press reports said traders continued to defy the official instructions.

On reports of glaring violations of the Price Control Committee's instructions by traders on items like toiletries, confectionaries, soft drinks, cigarettes, meat, beef and milk products, police arrested more than 230 shopkeepers in the Punjab capital Lahore alone. The district magistrate disallowed bails Wednesday and police said profiteers and blackmarketeers would be treated "with an iron hand." There were similar reports from other parts of the country and police sources said the action would continue until pre-budget price levels were restored.

Authorities have publicised special telephone numbers on which consumers can record their grievance against any shopkeeper demanding inflationary rates. Traders have been ordered to display price lists of all essential items or face punitive action, the sources said.

Foreign Minister Leaves for SAARC Meeting

BK160849 Karachi Overses Service in English 0800 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, left Islamabad for Karachi this morning on his way to New Delhi to attend the 2-day session of the Council of Ministers of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation [SAARC] beginning on Thursday [18 June].

Talking to newsmen at the airport, the foreign minister said Pakistan would play a positive role at the meeting. Pakistan has always made its firm commitment to the cause of promoting regional cooperation. He said that SAARC can make tremendous contribution to the socioeconomic betterment of millions of people in the region.

In reply to a question, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said he would avail himself of the opportunity to meet his counterparts from the SAARC member countries in the Indian capital to exchange views on matters and issues of bilateral, regional, and international nature.

1,000 Terrorist Suspects Released From Boosa Camp

BK171138 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 17 Jun 87

[Text] One thousand Tamil terrorist suspects released from the Boosa camp in southern Sri Lanka left for Jaffna yesterday on board the Sri Lankan naval freighter (*Kudaratna*).

Senior Superintendent of police, Galle division, W.A.B. Ratna, told *Lanka Puwath* that another 731 detainees were still at Boosa.

He added that they are being questioned, and if found innocent, will be released shortly.

Foreign Policy Review Urged After Jaffna Airdrop

BK170928 Colombo SUN in English 10 Jun 87 p 7

[Editorial: "Foreign Policy"]

[Text] As the whole magnitude of India's naked attack on Sri Lanka's territorial integrity and the plans for a full scale invasion come to light, the lack of a strong international response raises doubts about Sri Lanka's foreign policy in recent years.

In the aftermath of the June 4 air raid of Jaffna, Sri Lanka called for an urgent meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) and informed the UN Security Council of India's aggression.

But veteran diplomats are sceptical about both moves. The SAARC charter does not permit bilateral political disputes on the agenda of formal meetings. As for the petition to the UN, they feel it may not only be ineffective but also counter-productive.

Except for Bangladesh and to a lesser degree Pakistan the reaction of Sri Lanka's so called 'friends' to the highhanded bullying by India was disappointing if not disturbing.

The US reaction was typically American. Underlined by euphemisms and understatements, the US statement expressed regret over the developments that led to the air raid and called for negotiations.

Sri Lankan authorities are said to be unhappy over the US reaction. This time the Americans were influenced not only by the active Eelam lobby, but also by the "Indian factor" in US regional strategy.

Why is our foreign policy failing so often though Shahul Hameed could lay claims to be Asia's most senior Foreign Minister? When allowed to act on his own, Mr Hameed has displayed diplomatic skills as he did during the countdown to the air attack by India. Unfortunately the Foreign Ministry has often been side stepped or overshadowed in diplomatic efforts, causing confusion and sometimes calamitous setbacks.

In the rage over the Indian outrage, there have been calls even for reconsideration of Nonalignment.

The developments of the past few weeks have proved beyond doubt that the "Godfather" of nonalignment has violated the very principles of the Movement, by forcible entry into sovereign territory with its menacing warplanes.

Besides there has been no voice of protest raised by the rest of the Nonaligned world about such callous disregard to all that they uphold as a fraternity.

It is therefore time that we did some serious thinking about continuing to sit as equal members of this international body with those who profess double standards.

What is necessary for Sri Lanka is a dynamic machinery to project our case with clear-cut responsibilities. There are veteran diplomats at our service but they are undermined by political and other parochial considerations.

Foreign policy is formulated by the government but generally implemented by the Foreign Ministry through our missions and diplomatic forays. More independent authority for the Foreign Office and our diplomatic missions could help Sri Lanka to get a better deal from the world.